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CASTLE STREET, BUCKINGHAM *(from an old engraving).*

Leisure-Hour Notes

ON

Historical Buckingham

TREATING MAINLY OF THE HALF CENTURY SINCE 1857,
WHEN THE REV. H. ROUNDELL PUBLISHED
HIS "LECTURE" ON BUCKINGHAM;

AND INCLUDING A FEW INTERESTING LOCAL ITEMS,
NOT HITHERTO RECORDED,
BUT NOW VOUCHED FOR BY THE COMPILER,

J. T. HARRISON,
"THE POPLARS," BUCKINGHAM.

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1909.

And departing leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time."
—*Longfellow.*

London:
HENRY GRAY, GENEALOGICAL RECORD OFFICE AND BOOK STORE,
1, CHURCHFIELD ROAD EAST, ACTON, W.

Buckingham:
WALFORD & SON, PRINTERS AND PUBLISHERS, MARKET HILL.

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AUTHORITIES QUOTED FROM:

Dr. Browne Willis's History of Buckingham; Lipscombe's Bucks; Lyson's Bucks; Rev. H. Roundell's Lecture; J. J. Sheehan's Topography of Bucks; Camden's History of the County (first written in Latin, then translated into English, and published in 1610); Dugdale's History; Cassey & Co.'s Bucks, Cambs, and Herts; Kelly's Directory; The Archæological "Records" of the County (including the number containing the Rev. F. G. Kiddle's paper read at the visit of the Society to Buckingham in 1884); Extracts from Mr. Thos. Baker's contributions to "The Garner" (1884), Mr. A. A. Walford's manuscript, and other sources.

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BROWNE WILLIS, Esq., THE BUCKINGHAM HISTORIAN.

Dr. Browne Willis, the great historian of, and benefactor to, our County Town, published his book in 1755, and for all time it will be the standard for reference as to the Borough history up to that date.

Many copies of Dr. Browne Willis's History of Buckingham are known to be existing still ; amongst others, there is the copy presented to the Corporation in 1877 by G. A. U. Nelson, Esq., and one in the Reading Room, the gift of Dr. Howard in 1908. Two copies are owned by Mr. J. T. Harrison, one by F. W. Denchfield, Esq., C.C., one by Alfred Stowe, Esq., and three by Mr. A. A. Walford.

Mr. Roundell published, in 1857, a "Memoir of Browne Willis, L.L.D., Historian of Buckingham."

The following verses from the "St. James' Magazine" of April, 1763, give an excellent idea of his character and habits, and we are glad to be able to supplement same with a wood-cut of the celebrated antiquarian :—

"Whilome there dwelt near Buckingham,
That famous country town,
At a known place, hight Whaddon Chase,
A Squire of odd renown.

A Druid's sacred form he bore,
His robes a girdle bound,
Deep vers'd he was in antient lore,
In customs old, profound.

High on a hill his mansion stood,
But gloomy, dark within,
Here mangled books, as bones and blood
Lie in a giant's den.

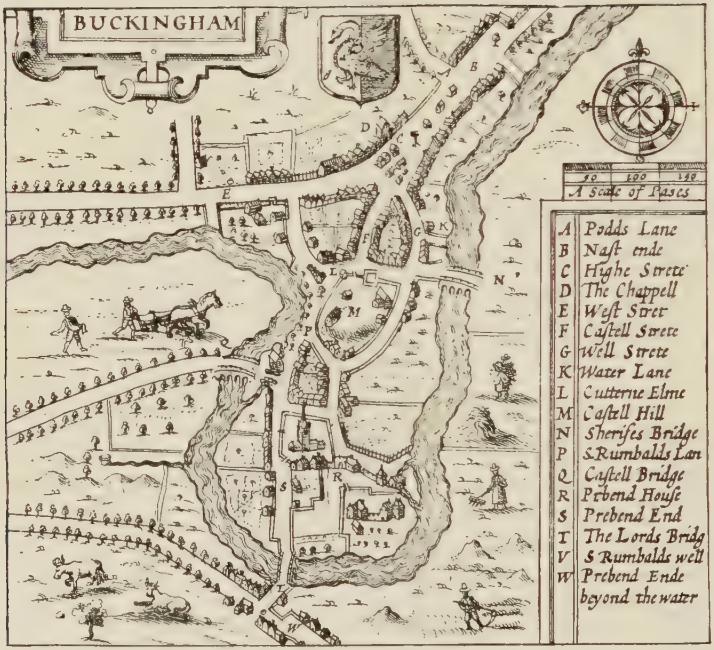
A walking Alm'nack he appears,
Stept from some mouldy wall,
Worn out of use thro' dust and years,
Like 'scutcheons in his hall.

His car himself he did provide,
To stand in double stead,
That it should carry him alive,
And bury him when dead.

By rusty coins old Kings he'd trace,
And know their air and mien,
King Alfred he knew well by face,
Tho' George he ne'er had seen.

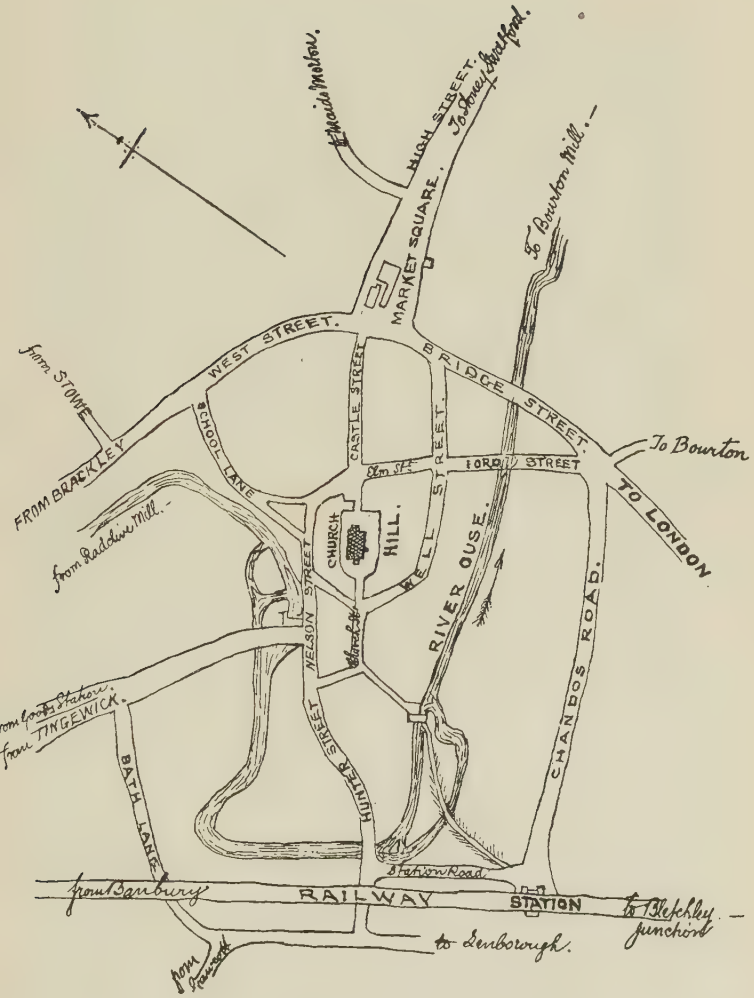
Whene'er the fatal day shall come,
For come, alas ! it must,
When this good Squire must stay at home,
And turn to antique dust ;

The solemn dirge, ye owls prepare,
Ye bats more hoarsely screak,
Croak, all ye ravens, round the bier,
And all ye church-mice squeak."



† PLAN OF BUCKINGHAM IN 1610,
BY JOHN SPEED.

See page 57, *re* St. Rumbold's Well, and notice, for situation of same, the little round building on this plan above the pointer, with stream trickling down into the river.



PLAN OF BUCKINGHAM STREETS IN 1909.

PREFACE.

In launching these "Records" of sundry incidents connected with our Ancient Borough, I am only hoping to enhance the value of the already numerous publications on Buckingham, from which quotations are made; and if errors have inadvertently crept into these pages, I must apologise in advance for same.

It is a pleasure to acknowledge the kind assistance given me by numerous friends to whom I have applied for various details, and who will therefore, I trust, accept this paragraph as a record of my thanks for such help.

To find my efforts appreciated by those who take an interest in the history of this loyal Borough is my earnest hope.

J. T. HARRISON,
The Poplars,
Buckingham.

September, 1909.

CHANDOS ROAD (ABOUT 1860).

Historical Buckingham.

THE TOWN.

BUCKINGHAM, 57 miles from London by road, and 60½ miles by rail, is situate in the centre of a great Agricultural district, and on a peninsula formed by the River Ouse, which nearly encompasses it (see plan of the streets). Lyson says it was described as an *Ancient* Borough as early as at the time of the Norman Survey (Domesday Book). The River is crossed by three stone bridges (of which further particulars are given on another page). The main approach to the town from the Railway Station is along the Chandos Road, opened about the year 1854. A number of residences have been built along the route of same (see photo of the first block erected), and now the Royal Latin School is housed there. The original main road from London to Birmingham passes through the town, bordered by telegraph poles carrying about 40 wires, and an underground service of about 100 more, recently laid. Of the six districts into which the Parish and Municipal Borough are divided, the town itself is in three, viz., "The Borough," "Prebend End" and "Bourton-Hold." The district called THE BOROUGH comprises the central portion of the town, including Church Hill, or Castle Hill, Castle Street, West Street, Market Square, North End, &c. The area of the Borough is about 500 acres, assessed to Land Tax at £613. The rateable value of the Borough proper is: buildings, £6360 7s. 8d.; land, £831 12s. 3d. The precinct of PREBEND END anciently formed part of the

endowment of the Prebend of "Sutton-cum-Buckingham" in Lincoln Cathedral. The rateable value of this district is now: buildings, £3251 10s. 0d.; land, £767 9s. 9d. In this part of the town is situate the Old Churchyard, with the site where, prior to 1776, the Old Parish Church stood (see engraving), the Vicarage House, the Yeomanry Hall, the Condensed Peptonised Milk Factory, two large Maltings, and the Railway Station. BOURTON-HOLD district probably had its name from its situation in the immediate vicinity of the "hold" or "keep" of the Castle, on the side towards Bourton. The rateable value of same is: buildings £1021 17s. 2d.; land, £4 10s. 0d.

THE HOUSES generally throughout the town are of brick, with slated or tiled roofs, a few old thatched cottages still surviving. The streets are lighted with ELECTRIC LIGHT since 1905. There is a good public supply of WATER, pumped into a storage reservoir by steam power at Maidsmoreton, and then falling by gravitation into the town. The SANITATION is also modern, with a Sewerage Farm outlet and filtration tanks (see further details on another page). Very good building sand, gravel and limestone are dug within the precincts of the town, and a dove-coloured marble was once worked here by the late Mr. James Harrison, sen., till the abolishing of the duty on foreign marbles (wrought more easily) put an end to the local trade.

For the information of readers who may not be able to refer to "Browne Willis" for the former history of the Borough, we give a copy of the paper read by our late esteemed Vicar, the Rev. F. G. Kiddle, to the members of the Bucks Archæological Society on the occasion of their visit in 1884:—

THE TOWN OF BUCKINGHAM is doubtless of great antiquity. Historians tell us that about A.D. 44 a Roman General under the Emperor Claudius surprised the Britons on the banks of the River Ouse at, or near, Buckingham; and further, on the first spreading of Christianity, in the Saxon times, it became remarkable

as the burying place of Saint Rumbold, who was born at King's Sutton, November 1st, 626, where he also died, appointing his body to rest there the first year, the next two years at Brackley, and at Buckingham for ever after; where, as the historian and antiquarian (Browne Willis) informs us in his interesting history of the County, a shrine was made for him in the Parish Church, to which great resort was made by pilgrims, and many miracles are reported to have been wrought by him there.

The same historian tells us that this town is mentioned in the reign of King Alfred, on his division of the kingdom into Shires, when he fixed on this place as the Capital of his newly-erected County, and that his son, King Edward the Elder, took up his quarters here A.D. 918, caused two forts to be built and garrisoned on either side of the River Ouse, and then, advancing towards the Danes, struck such terror into them that they were glad to make peace. Subsequently to the survey of Domesday Book, in which mention is made of the town, few records are to be found until of more recent date.

We read that in A.D. 1484, Richard III. made a grant to John Grey, of Wilton, of certain moneys "for the food of the King's hawkes secured upon the Castle and Manor of Buckingham."

My learned predecessor, the Rev. H. Roundell, tells us that the Bailiff and Burgesses of the Corporation were summoned in King Edward III.'s time to send three representatives to the Council of Trade held at Westminster by that Prince, and in Henry VII.'s time, County weights and measures were ordered by Act of Parliament to be kept here. He informs us also that the gaol delivery of felons and all County business was transacted here until (as it was supposed), by the influence of Chief-Justice Baldwin (a native of Aylesbury), the Assizes were removed to that town during the reign of Henry VIII.

In 1553, Queen Mary granted a Charter of Incorporation to this Borough; also a second Charter, with increased privileges, was granted by Charles II., A.D. 1684, under the authority of which the government of this Borough was conducted until the new "Municipal Corporations Act" came into force in 1835. (See account of these Charters on another page.)

"The year 1568 is memorable in the annals of our town from the fact that, on the 25th day of August" (as we learn from a Memo.

in the Corporation Book of that date), "the high and mighty Princess, Queen Elizabeth, came in progress to the Burrow of Buckingham, and at the utmost part of the limits of the liberties of the Burrow, the Bayliff and the 12 principal Burgesses of the said Burrow made their most humble submission, and received her Grace, whereupon her Highness did admit the said Bayliff to be her Chamberlain within the said Burrow by delivering him one white wand, and to pay proper honour to the said Burrow her Majesty had, in a most triumphant manner, her sword royal and maces bourne and trumpets blowne, until she came to the Mansion House of the Rector or Prebendary of the said Burrow (see chapter on the Manor House), where Her Highness rested for dinner, and afterwards Her Grace proceeded forward to the town of Bicester."

During the civil wars of the seventeenth century, Buckingham, unlike all the other towns in the County, refused to espouse the side of the Parliament, and from a document in the Bodleian Library, Oxford, we learn that "this Corporation preserved its integrity, and was eminently serviceable in assisting the University and City of Oxford, which were the chief support and assistance of King Charles I."

Some records are preserved to us of this time, but we pass on to mention the great fire of 1725. In a handbill circulated at the time, it was stated that 138 dwelling houses and a great many barns and stables and other out-buildings, were totally destroyed, and that the loss, over and above all money recovered from any insurance office whatsoever, amounted to £32,682 13s. 6d. Unhappily for the appearance of the town, the Corporation did not apply for an Act of Parliament whereby the rebuilding of the houses would be *regulated* (a step strongly urged by Browne Willis, of Whaddon Hall, to whom we have already referred). The mention of this name induces me to quote once again Mr. Roundell's words: "Mr. Willis," he says, "must ever be reckoned amongst the best friends Buckingham ever had. By his exertions a large sum of money, of which he contributed the major part himself, was expended on the repair of the Church Tower, the spire of which had fallen down on the 7th February, 1699. He originated the plan for building the present Gaol, of which he witnessed the completion by Lord Cobham. He procured the restoration of the Assizes to Buckingham, strenuously resisted an

intended removal of them to Aylesbury, and persuaded both the Bishop of Lincoln and the Archdeacon of Buckingham to hold their visitations here. Indeed, he devoted his best energies through full half-a-century to restore to Buckingham its ancient honours." (See Mr. Roundell's "Memoirs of Browne Willis," published in 1857.)

Buckingham is in the NORTHERN DIVISION of the County, and in the DIOCESE OF OXFORD, the patronage of the living being now in the hands of the Bishop of Oxford (by an exchange effected some few years ago with the patron of Adstock, Bucks).

For a modern, comprehensive and concise account of the town, we reproduce a paper contributed to the "Christian World" in 1897 by the late Miss Farningham:—

A QUIET TOWN.

A quiet town in a quiety county is Buckingham, pleasantly situated on the Ouse, and half embowered in some of the most beautiful trees of England. At one time in its history it was a place of great importance, but it has loved peace more than push, and has therefore been left a little out of the scramble for numbers in which other places have been engaged. It is not a sleepy town by any means; it appears to be before its larger neighbours in such things as electric lighting and motor-cars; but it declines to run itself out of breath, in competition, and hears quite tranquilly and without jealousy of the leaps and bounds by which other towns have grown, while it has but an increase of one or two to show from census to census. It is a quaint, cosy town in which to live. There are delightful old houses shut away in walled gardens; there are curious devices among its buildings, especially one corkscrew chimney, the like of which is not to be found anywhere; and its old gaol, with square, embattled towers, which is now used as the house of the fire-engine. The Parish Church occupies a splendid position, and is worthy of its site. From all parts of the town its embattled tower and picturesque spire draw all eyes to itself. It stands on a mound where formerly Buckingham Castle stood, and it commands beautiful views in all directions. A copy of Raphael's

picture of the Transfiguration forms the alterpiece. It was the gift of the Marquis of Buckingham. There was an old church which fell to the ground by degrees in the 17th century, and which stood near the spot where the present edifice, built about 1780, now stands. Another notable building is the Town Hall, and another, the ancient Vicarage. The river almost makes an island of the town, for it surrounds it on three sides, and the Ouse is a pleasant river to have near one, for it babbles of its birth in the well at Brackley among the Northamptonshire meadows, and of its delightful journey by buttercups and daisies, rushes and forget-me-nots, hawthorns and chestnuts, welcomed everywhere by village and hamlet, by men who walk by it, and birds who sing to it, and children who love its gentle music. In Buckinghamshire its course is a quiet one, but before reaching the Wash it receives the tributary waters of the Tare near Stony Stratford, the Ousel at Newport Pagnell, the Ivel at Templeford, the Cam at Stretham, the Lark at Prickwillow-bridge, and the Little Ouse at Brandon-bridge. At the September Equinox it loses its gentleness, and has a bore or eagre as dangerous as any. But that is when it has got far away from Buckingham. It is flowing peaceably enough under its three bridges there, where it has only just begun its course of 140 miles, and where it assists, with leisurely docility, the flour mills and other industries of the town.

Much of the business, as well as the importance, of Buckingham has declined of late years. It is still nominally the county town, but Aylesbury has in most matters supplanted it. Once it had a wool market second to none, and large tanneries also. Its work has always had reference to its quiet agricultural surroundings. The newest factory is one for peptonised milk. There may still be seen in and around the place the picture which Cowper rendered immortal—

> Yon cottager who weaves at her own door,
> Pillows and bobbins all her little store ;
> Content though mean, and cheerful if not gay ;
> Shuffling her threads about the livelong day :
> Just earns a scanty pittance, and at night
> Lies down secure, her heart and pocket light.

The picture might as well stand for to-day as for the times in which Cowper wrote, although the lace-making has been worse than it used to be, and the pittance earned by it more scanty. The work is greatly liked by Buckinghamshire villagers, who could

be made very happy if only pillow lace became fashionable in this Diamond Jubilee year. Many ladies, and some among the highest of the land, are doing their best to make it so, and certainly no lace is more delicately beautiful.

Buckingham might be called a town of avenues, for there are several of them, and the trees which form them are very fine. There is a favourite avenue leading from the town to the village of Maids Moreton; but a finer one still is in the opposite direction, and leads to Stowe House, the residence of the now extinct Dukes of Buckingham. The Stowe Park avenue is really magnificent, and a visit to the historical old house where once Queen Victoria stayed, and where the Comte de Paris died, would be productive of much interest and pleasure. Indeed, the town and neighbourhood of Buckingham are inviting places to those who have been bearing the burden and heat of the day in big, noisy cities.

MARIANNE FARNINGHAM.

Unfortunately, in common with many another "very Ancient and Loyal Borough," the trend of modern life to "centralisation" and agglomeration in towns well served with railways, has not increased the number of inhabitants, as the Census returns show, viz.:—

1861	...	...	3,847
1871	...	...	3,703
1881	...	...	3,585
1891	...	...	3,364
1901	...	...	3,151

These figures include the hamlets of Bourton and Gawcott; in Buckingham itself the number is about 2,700.

It may, however, here be mentioned that the town is one of the healthiest in the kingdom, the death-rate for 1908 having been only 5 per 1,000!

THE MANORIAL RIGHTS

of Buckingham once belonged to the family of Brocas (who were then possessed of considerable property in Bourtonhold district), but they are now vested in the Corporation by a lease for 2,000 years, subject to a quit rent of 40/- per annum (which, however, does not seem to have been paid for many years).

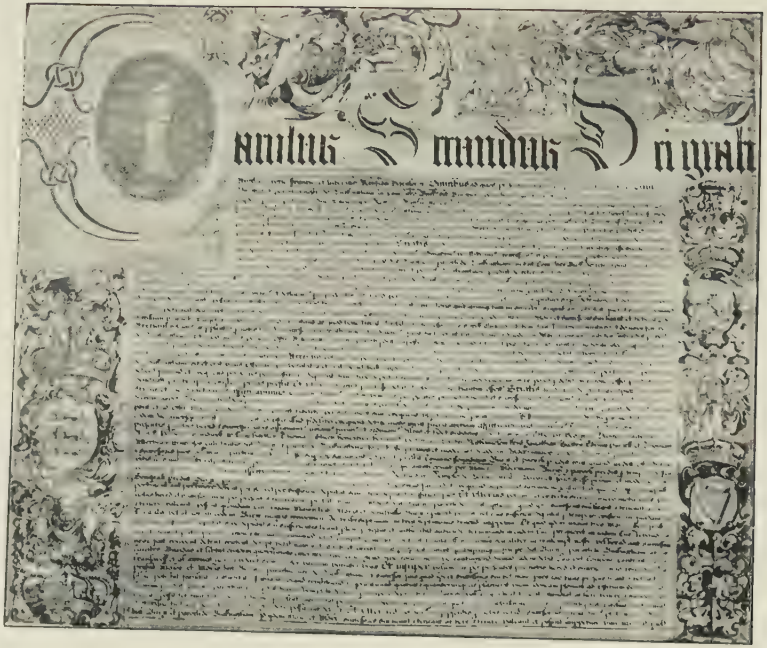
THE CORPORATION.

IN the reign of Edward III., the town of Buckingham was governed by a Mayor and two Bailiffs; in that of Henry VIII., by a Bailiff and Burgesses; in the reign of Edward VI., by a Bailiff and eleven Burgesses, but they were not constituted a body corporate till 1554, when Queen Mary (as a reward for their steady adherence to her in the rebellion of the Duke of Northumberland) granted them a Charter of Incorporation by the style of "Bailiff, Principal Burgesses, and Steward." King Charles II. gave them a new Charter (see photo), changing the style of the Corporation to that of "Mayor, Aldermen, and Steward." The latter Charter had been acted upon only four years, however, (says Browne Willis) when the old establishment was revived, and the Corporation continued to act under the former Charter down to the passing of the Municipal Corporations Act in 1835. The originals of these Charters of Queen Mary and Charles II. are preserved in the Council Chamber, and may be seen there through the half-glass door.

The Corporation now consists of a MAYOR, four ALDERMEN and twelve COUNCILLORS, with a Town Clerk and other officers. Meetings are held at six o'clock on the first Monday in every month, except November, when the election of Mayor comes on the 9th annually. There are also special meetings as occasion may require.

It may be interesting here to give a copy from "The London Gazette" of 28th August, 1684, of the festivities indulged in on the formal acceptance by the Borough of the Charles II. Charter:—

"*Buckingham, August 23rd.*—The 20th instant, Sir Richard Temple came hither with the New Charter which His Majesty hath been graciously pleased to grant to this Corporation, having been met upon the way at Mr. Edmund Verney's House, at East Claydon, (about 5 miles from hence), by the late Bayliff and



THE CHARTER OF CHARLES II. (1658).

Burgesses on horseback, and near 200 Persons of Quality of the Neighbourhood, and Principal Inhabitants of this Borough. Being come within the limits of the Corporation, Sir Richard delivered the Charter to Mr. Thomas Hillesden, the late Bayliff and present Mayor, who accompanied him in his Coach to the Town, and at the entry thereof, getting on horseback, rode at the head of the Company to the Town Hall (the Bells ringing, Waits and other Musick playing, and the Streets being crowded with People, who expressed great satisfaction), where the Charter was read and the Mayor sworn, who afterwards swore the Steward and Aldermen; and then Sir Richard Temple declared to them the great Honor and Advantages they received by their New Charter, the King having been pleased to Incorporate them by the name of the Mayor and Aldermen of the Loyal Borough and Parish of Buckingham, and to grant them two new Fairs, the one on St. Matthew's day, the other on the second Monday after the Epiphany, and every Saturday a Market for Live Cattle, and many other additions to their former Privileges. Whereupon they all expressed their duty and thankfulness to His Majesty for these, his Royal favours to them; and after this the Mayor and Aldermen gave all the Gentlemen a very handsome Entertainment."

List of Mayors of the Borough,

Brought on from list in Mr. Roundell's Lecture (1857) up to the present time:—

1857	Edward Parrott	1883	J. T. Harrison
1858	Ditto	1884	T. Ridgway
1859	H. M. Bradford	1885	E. H. Ridgway
1860	Ditto	1886	Ditto
1861	Richard Elkington	1887	Ditto
1862	Ditto	1888	Geo. Harrison
	(By his own casting vote.)	1889	Ditto
1863	S. M. Allen	1890	J. Marshall
1864	Ditto	1891	Ditto
1865	Ditto	1892	W. J. Gough
1866	Henry Thorpe, sen.	1893	Ditto
1867	Ditto	1894	Hy. Thorpe
1868	Ditto	1895	Ditto
1869	James Harrison, jun.	1896	Ditto
1870	Ditto	1897	Jno. Harper
1871	S. M. Allen	1898	Ditto

1872	Henry Hearn	1899	T. Boyse
1873	F. Humfrey, sen.	1900	C. A. Bennett
1874	Ditto	1901	Ditto
1875	George Bennett	1902	A. C. Rogers
1876	Ditto	1903	Ditto
1877	T. Ridgway	1904	Ditto
1878	Ditto	1905	T. Hawes
1879	E. H. Ridgway	1906	Ditto
1880	J. W. Thorpe	1907	F. Adcock
1881	Ditto	1908	Ditto
1882	J. T. Harrison	1909	E. H. Laurence

Perhaps some of our readers will be amused to read a copy of the "Declaration" which at one time had to be signed by the "Bailiff" of the Borough (as he was then called instead of "Mayor"):—

DECLARATION REQUIRED BY 9TH, GEORGE 4TH, CHAPTER 17.

I, James Harrison, do solemnly and sincerely in the presence of God, profess, testify, and declare upon the true ffaith of a Christian, that I will never exercise any power, authority or influence, which I may possess by virtue of the office of Bailiff of the Borough and Parish of Buckingham, to injure or weaken the Protestant Church, as it is by Law established in England, or to disturb the said Church, or the Bishops and Clergy of the said Church in the possession of any rights or Privileges to which such Church, or the said Bishops and Clergy are or may be by Law entitled.

Made and subscribed at Buckingham aforesaid in the said Borough and Parish, the ffirst, day of May, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-nine, in the presence of } J. HARRISON.

JNO. LOVERIDGE, *Bailiff of the Borough and Parish of Buckingham, and one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace, for the said Borough and Parish.*

BUCKINGHAM A COUNTY TOWN.

BUCKINGHAM is a "County Town" in itself, as may be seen by the following hitherto unpublished "Counsel's opinion," which has been placed at our service :—

COPY OF AN OPINION OF THE ATTORNEY AND SOLICITOR GENERAL, DATED 28TH JULY, 1827.

"We are of opinion that by the construction of the Statute, a Borough having exclusive jurisdiction, and not contributing to the County Rates, must be considered for the purpose of the Statute as a County of itself; and we think that the Borough of Buckingham is in this class, for it appears from the last communication that it has exclusive jurisdiction, that it does not contribute to the County Rate, but that it pays such expenses as generally fall upon the County Rate out of the Poors' Rate, which in effect is the fund out of which the County Rate is supplied. It must be taken therefore to have a rate in the value of a County Rate though not formally assessed as such."

J. SCARLETT.

Also from the "History of Bucks" by Cassey & Co., we learn that in Henry VII.'s time Buckingham was considered the County Town, and the standard measures for the County were ordered to be kept there. This is confirmed by our townsman, Mr. G. W. French, still having in his possession some of these measures (see Memo. on page 10 of Mr. Roundell's Lecture, of their Exhibition in 1855).

COMMISSION OF THE PEACE.

There is also a Borough Commission of the Peace, with the Mayor as Chief Magistrate, assisted by about six others.

THE BOROUGH ARMS, &c.

THE Municipal insignia include the MACE tempo Charles II. (see photo), a Mayor's chain and badge, and the Borough seals. The mace of silver gilt, is historically of much interest, having been made or converted in the Commonwealth period, and re-converted at the Restoration. It is 3ft. 4ins. long, and has a plain shaft, three knobs, and a spreading base; three brackets support the head, the surface of which is divided into three compartments, displaying: 1st, a Swan with wings expanded, and gorged with a coronet and chained amid foliage; 2nd, a Harp; 3rd a Rose. Surmounting the head is an elaborate cresting of open-work, from which rise three gilt feathers, curved inwards, and meeting at their extremities, and on these rests a square cushion carrying a crown. On the raised flat top are the Royal Stuart Arms, between the letters "C.R." At the base is an incription as follows:—

> "*In the 12th year of the Reigne of our Soveraigne Lord King Charles II., by the Grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, 1660.*"

By the liberality of Mr. A. C. Rogers, the mace was re-gilt in 1902, during his Mayoralty.

THE QUEEN'S VISIT IN 1845.

THE CEREMONY OF PRESENTING THE MACE.

IT may not be generally known that on the occasion of a reigning Sovereign entering within the Borough precincts, it is etiquette for the Mayor at the time being to tender the mace with an expression of loyal submission, and then receive it back again, as the following record of the QUEEN'S VISIT in 1845 will shew:—

These are the anncient Armes belonginge and apperteignynge to the towne and Boroughe of Buckingham and paryshe of the same, and at this my present visitation was Paull Miller baylief of the same towne and boroughe; Paull Dorrell, Esquier, Steward; John Lambert, Thomas Moore, John Gates, John Powell, William Illing, Richard Myllinge, Humfrey Ryve, John Okeley and William Symkyns, Burgesses and late Bayliefs of the said towne and Boroughe; Ferdinando Powlton, Gent, John Taylor and Ralphe Sear, Burgesses; John Okeley, Deputie Steward; and John Whyte, under baylief, which armes I have ratified and recorded. In witness whereof I have subscribed my name the (eighth) day of September 1574.

J. Lee, alias Portcullis,

Marshall to Clarencieulx.

Be it Remembered,

That on Wednesday, the 15th of January, 1845, Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, with her Illustrious Consort, His Royal Highness Prince Albert, passed through this town upon the occasion of Her Majesty's visit to His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, at Stowe. The town was decorated with 4 arches and other devices. Her Majesty was met at 3 o'clock in the afternoon at the entrance of the town from Stony Stratford, and conducted through it by a procession formed as follows :—

Detachment of Yeomanry.
Superintendent of Borough Police.
Six Special Constables. | Six Special Constables.
The Band.
The Gentry and Clergy of the County.
The Inhabitants of the Borough.
Officers of the Corporation.
Sir Thomas Fremantle, Bt., and Sir J. Chetwode, Bt.
(Members for the Borough).
C. G. Dupres, Esq. *(Member for the County).*
The Town Council (two and two) with white wands.
The Aldermen (two and two) with white wands.
The Borough Magistrates.
Sir H. Verney, Bt. | Captain Dewes.
George Nelson, Esq. *(Clerk of the Peace).*
Policeman. | Cushion Bearer. | Policeman.
Ditto. | Mace Bearer. | Ditto.
J. W. Cowley, Esq. *(Town Clerk).* | Henry Smith, Esq. *(The Mayor).* | Rev. Thos. Silvester *(Chaplain).*
The Royal Cortége.
The Lodges of the various Societies.

The Mayor and Corporation were attired in their official robes, the Clergy wore their robes, and local Gentlemen in the procession wore a scarlet rosette. In the Market Place the ceremony of delivering up the Mace took place ; the Mayor advanced to the carriage in which Her Majesty and the Prince were seated, and produced to the Queen the Mace on a cushion, saying : " May it please your Majesty to accept this Mace, which I, as Mayor of this Ancient and Loyal Borough, humbly present in dutiful submission to your Majesty's Royal prerogative and authority." To which the

Queen replied (returning the Mace): "Mr. Mayor, I hope you will keep it; I am much gratified by my reception in this Borough."

The ceremony over, the procession moved on towards Stowe, till it arrived at the Duke of Buckingham's Lodges, from which the Royal party passed at a rapid pace amidst deafening cheers of the people. The procession then returned to the Town Hall, and a public dinner took place at the "Cobham Arms" Inn. The town was brilliantly illuminated in the evening.

On the following day, by the command of Her Majesty, the Mayor attended at Stowe, and presented to her an Address from the town, of which the following is a copy:

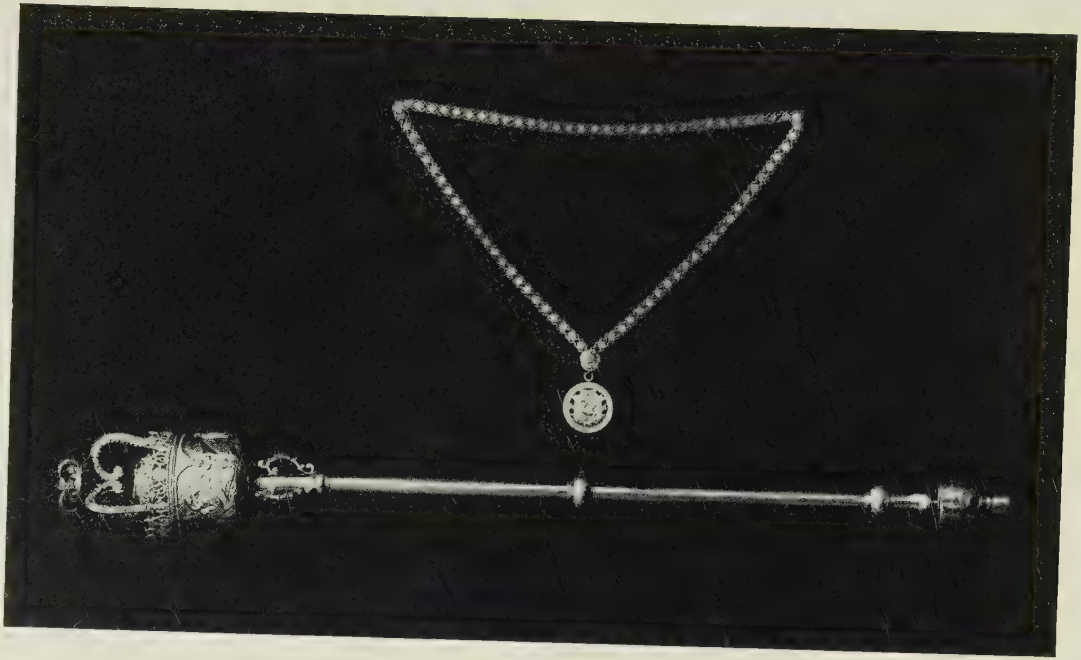
"To the Queen's most excellent Majesty, the humble address of the Mayor, Aldermen, Burgesses, Magistrates, and Inhabitants of the Borough of Buckingham. We, your Majesty's most dutiful subjects, most gratefully avail ourselves of your Majesty's auspicious presence amongst us to offer the expression of devoted loyalty and attachment which we at all times feel towards your Majesty. We trust your Majesty will believe that any expressions we might use would but slightly convey the deep sense we entertain of your Majesty's great condescension in thus adding your Majesty's name to those of your Majesty's Royal predecessors and the other august personages who have visited this Ancient and Loyal Borough. We most earnestly pray that, under the protection of Divine Providence, continued and increased blessings may be shed upon your Majesty and upon your Majesty's Royal Consort; that your Majesty's reign may be distinguished by the glory and undisturbed prosperity of this great country, and that your Majesty may be visited with every domestic and personal blessing, and long preserved for the special benefit and happiness of these Realms.

"Given under the common Seal of this Borough, the 15th day of January, in the 8th year of your Majesty's Reign."

HENRY SMITH,
Mayor.

L.S.

The Mayor had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty and kissing her hand, and, by her gracious command, afterwards dined in the presence of his Sovereign.



THE BOROUGH MACE AND CHAIN.

On Saturday, the 18th January, Her Majesty and Prince Albert returned from Stowe, and passing again through Buckingham were received in the town and conducted through it in the same manner as on the Wednesday of arrival.

Mr. Thos. Baker says he distinctly recollects this visit of their Majesties, and that they brought with them their two children, the Princess Royal and Prince Albert Edward (our present King). Mr. Baker was one of the school children massed below the Gaol to sing the National Anthem to them.

The Mayor's chain with badge, likewise of silver gilt, was presented in 1884 by Sir E. H. Verney, Bart., and Lady Verney, of Claydon House. It consists of 18 quatrefoil links, each enclosing a Tudor rose, and united by smaller links; the circular badge displays the Borough Arms on one side, with a wreath of laurel; and on the other side the Verney Arms, and an inscription.

Of the two SEALS, the older (of silver) bears the Arms of the Borough, as confirmed by William Harvey, Clarenceux in 1565, and the modern brass seal is similar.

There is also a Mayor's robe, of dark blue cloth trimmed with fur, with cocked hat to match, the gift of A. C. Rogers, Esq., Mayor, during his term of office (1902).

The weather-vane Swan of hollow hammered copper (about 6ft. square in height and width of wings) surmounting the Town Hall was re-gilt in 1881 by the Mayor, J. T. Harrison.

The following letter, written in 1898, gives considerable information as to the BOROUGH ARMS :—

BUCKINGHAM,

April, 1898.

DEAR SIR,

As promised, I have now looked up the papers *re* Buckingham "Borough Arms," and find that Mr. H. Gough, London, preparatory to writing his paper in the "Bucks Records" on same, enquired of my father (10th February, 1868), for any information on the subject, saying incidentally, "It appears doubtful whether there is any authority for the chain."

In his reply, my father pointed out that the swan in the grant of "ancient arms belonging to the town of Buckingham, dated 1574" (and which I lent you to have a seal made from), "is gorged with a crown," but has *no chain* to it (and this is equally so in a confirmatory grant, which I also have by me, dated August, 1634). Furthermore, my father pointed out that in the top corner of the frontispiece to "Browne Willis" (an engraving of the Old Church in Buckingham), the swan is represented "gorged but not chained," but that in the *self-same book* (page 106), Willis quotes from an entry (in similar language to the one shown you) in the Herald's office, London, made by "Harvey," the then King-at-Arms, dated 1565 (nine years only earlier than my actual document): "the arms belonging to this Ancient Corporation, as they are blazoned in the Herald's office, are per pale gules and sable, a swan chained and gorged with a ducal coronet, his wings expanded." Mr. Gough further says: "The people of three centuries ago seem therefore to have been rather foggy over the question of the chain," and it is at least singular that about 100 years ago, when our present church was built, a swan was carved on a shield over the tower door, gorged but *not* chained. The swan on the London Road Bridge is not even "gorged" with a crown, while the Corporation seal has been from the earliest, a swan gorged *and* "chained."

Mr. Gough in following up the subject at the time I have mentioned (see Records of Buckinghamshire, Vol. III., 1868), quoted many instances of the swan being used as "family arms," and gives an illustration of the standard borne by Henry Duke of Hereford (about 1400) with, amongst their insignia, a swan gorged and chained. He also gives a further illustration of the standard which "pertained to Henry Stafford, Earl of Wiltshire (1509-23), second son to the second Duke of Buckingham," and upon which is emblazoned a swan "gorged and chained" (pretty much as in our present Corporation seal), and incidentally he mentions that in a sepulchral brass at Westminster (1399) the swan, "sometimes gorged and chained and sometimes not, is several times repeated." He then localises the matter by saying, "It was doubtless through the Dukes of Buckingham of the House of Stafford (who had great estates within the county) that the swan became so associated with the shire as to become its appropriate symbol, and especially the ensign of its chief town."

In the copy of "Browne Willis," presented to the Town Council by Mr. G. A. U. Nelson in 1877 (on the death of his father, the late town clerk,) is a map of the town by John Speed as it was in 1610, with the swan gorged and chained on an armorial shield, and I notice that incidentally Mr. Gough mentions having seen a manuscript at the British Museum of the 17th century, with the swan "chained," but he does not lead to this having any local connection, nor does it exactly interest us, beyond the mere fact, to find him quoting the Borough Arms of Wycombe being also "a swan gorged and chained."

You are aware how pleased I am at all times to find anyone taking an interest in the "Ancient Borough," and it has been therefore a delight to me to embody for you in as short a space as possible all I know or can glean on the subject, and, in conclusion, it appears to me that the motto or seal you had made is quite correct without the chain, whilst anyone adopting the "Corporation" seal as a starting point would be *equally* correct in copying the one thereon shown (see Walford's "Notes on Historic Buckingham" *re* the Borough Arms).

I remain,

Yours very truly,

J. T. HARRISON.

Mr. R. Crew,
Prebend Cottage,
Buckingham.

IMPORTANT LOCAL DOCUMENTS.

IN addition to the Charters (now hung in the Council Chamber) there is stored there the "Corporation Chest," and although the greater part of its contents consists of uninteresting old voting papers, &c., there are a few documents which, on a recent occasion, were brought to light, and a list of them taken as follows:—

Record of appointment of "Principal Burgesses," from about 1612 to 1835, when the entries stop without any note of explanation why.

1574.—Copies of Grants of Property by Bernard Brocas for the term of 2,000 years.

1588.—Copy of Katherine Agard's Charity.

1688.—Appointment of Sir Richard Temple, Bart., High Steward of the Borough, in the place of his late Grace, George, Duke of Buckingham.

1813.—Appointment of the most Noble Richard Grenville Chandos Temple, Marquis of Buckingham.

1764, 24th February.—Appointment, by the Bailiff and Principal Burgesses, of the Revd. James Eyre as Master of the "Free School," in the place of Mr. William Halsted, deceased.

1781, 2nd July.—Ditto of James Jones, Schoolmaster of the "Gabriel Newton" Charity School.

1785, 17th August. Ditto of Revd. William Eyre, in the place of his brother, Revd. James Eyre, deceased.

1676, 14th June.—Memo., that we, the Bailiff and Burgesses did receive into our custody all the Deeds relating to 3 yards of land lately purchased and settled upon the Vicar of Buckingham and his successors.

1687, March 15th. Admission of Sir Richard Temple, Knight and Bart., as a "Freeman of the Borough."

(All the above are entries in a well preserved half-calf bound book.)

1781 to 1800.—Three weeks' Court of Pleas, Book of Records, and list of Borough Officers elected annually.

1818, 16th March.—Copy of Rules, Orders and Regulations of a "Bank for Savings" at Buckingham (to be then established).

1662 to 1763.—Corporation Precedents.

6th year of James I.—Copy of Deed freeing all Tenants of New College, Oxford, from Tolls.

1814.—Map of proposed Turnpike Road from Buckingham to Newport Pagnell.

1844, September 10th.—Letter to Her Grace the Duchess of Buckingham and Chandos, congratulating her on the coming of age of her son, the Marquis of Chandos, and the acknowledgment of same.

1836, March 30th.—James Barlow did commit an act of vagrancy—"14 days' hard."

1500 (about).—A Register (undecipherable except by an expert) of appointment of Officers of the Borough, including a "*Constable of the Castle.*"

29th Henry VIII., 7th December.—Record of "Court of Port," being fines on bakers for short weight, and other dealers, for similar misdemeanours. (Quite undecipherable except by an expert.)

THE TOWN HALL.

THERE is a fanciful romance as to the history of this building, for Mr. Roundell says, "in 1680 the then Town Hall being considered unworthy, the present pile rose up in a mysterious manner, and when completed it did not cost the town a farthing, but was paid for by the sitting members of Parliament," but he throws a doubt upon the veracity of the story. In Lyson's Bucks (1806) the date is given as 1685. From Dugdale's History it appears that the present building was erected "some years before 1758 at the expense of Sir Ralph Verney." However, at the time of the "Stowe collapse" (1848), it seemed to have become in some way *the personal* property of the Duke of Buckingham, and it was therefore determined that the Corporation should buy it, and this was arranged with Lord Chandos, the Duke's son and successor in title. (See 1857-8 Borough Balance Sheet, "Rent paid to Lord Chandos, £12 2s. 9d.," and in the following year, £14 7s. 6d.; see also, in 1858, Mr. George Nelson's charge "for the conveyance of Town Hall, £99 18s. 4d.") The *modus operandi*, it appears, was to make use of the name of a Mr. Hovil as purchaser; and then he took a mortgage for £1,600 at 5 per cent. per annum (£80). This was subsequently transferred to a Mr. Samuel Peed, of Cambridge, who held it for many years, and then Mr. Harrison offering to find the amount at 4 per cent. it was transferred to him, and in 1885 this mortgage was paid off; partly by cash loaned from Mr. T. Boyse, who agreed to its redemption in £50 annual instalments (all now cleared off), and partly by the sale of Borough property coming in at the end of a 99 years' lease (at the time held by a Mr. Grimbly). This property was situate on either side of the Chewar, and was sold by auction in 1885 in four lots as follows:

Bought by Grimbly,	£240	(now Mr. C. A. Bennett).
„ „ Bucks & Oxon Bank,	£207	(„ Lloyds Bank).
„ „ Pringle	£21	(„ Mr. Pringle).
„ „ Rogers,	£640	(„ "The Bakery," Mr. Hull).
	£1,108	

Originally the LARGE HALL was fitted up as an Assize Court with two side galleries, one for the Grand Jury and the other for witnesses; but, with the abolition of the Quarter Sessions on the 22nd November, 1890, the lock fittings were removed, and first one and then the other gallery pulled down, thus gaining more clear floor space for dancing, and for dramatic performances and concerts. In the year 1880 the Council bought chairs and platform, at a cost of £70, for use on these occasions.

The SMALL HALL is still used as a County Court under the "Small Debtors' Recovery Act," which compels the Borough to provide it free, but for all other ordinary lettings a charge is made, which, with the rentals of offices let off on the ground floor, constitutes a good income, and provides more than sufficient funds to keep the whole premises in repair, the surplus going annually to the credit of the Borough Fund. About £400 has, however, just been spent in overhauling the roof and re-decorating the interior, etc. The Town Council meetings and the County and Borough Magistrates' meetings are held here, also Charity Trustees' meetings, School Governors' meetings, Burial Board meetings, Tax Commissioners' Appeals, Weekly Savings Bank, etc., and the Borough Surveyor's office is here situate.

As a "Queen Victoria Jubilee Memorial," a sum was subscribed to convert a part of the back buildings into a Reading Room approached from the Town Hall stairs. It is largely attended every day by both young and old members requiring a short period of recreation from the "daily round and common task." The gift, in the year 1904, of a billiard table by A. J. Robarts, Esq., (though let at quite a nominal charge per game), has materially helped to make the room self-supporting.

The Hall is fitted with both gas and electric light, and a powerful waterworks hydrant is fixed at the stair head in case of fire.

The building is surmounted by a bell-turret of oak encased in lead sheeting, with an illuminated 30-hour clock, and over the same is the swan weather vane (see chapter on the Borough Arms). The illuminated clock face was inserted in the year 1882, at a cost of £26, by Messrs. Gillett & Co.

HOTELS.

The "White Hart" Hotel.

THIS house, from its position in the Market Square, has always been, and must ever be, the principal Hotel in the Borough. It formerly had a carriage drive in from the Market Square under a covered gateway, but the late Duke of Buckingham (to whom it then belonged) very much improved the property by purchasing of the Charity Trustees the adjoining premises ("Three Cups" Inn and yard, etc.), and cutting through the same the present carriage entrance at the bottom of the yard; blocking up the old coach drive in, and turning same into the present entrance hall, with a new stone portico over the footway, etc. The Yeomanry Mess used to be held here in the glorious days of old, but in these practical times the annual training is held under canvas, and the town suffers from the discontinued expenditure of about £1500 annually amongst its various tradesmen. An omnibus runs from this Hotel to meet all trains, and the weekly Corn Market is principally held here in the entrance lobby and market room.

The "Swan and Castle" Hotel.

This well frequented Hotel and market house, situate in Castle Street, now and for many years past known by the above title, was originally called the "White Swan," the reason for the change of name being lost in obscurity. It is undoubtedly an ancient building, and was once the resort of the "nobility

and gentry, etc.," on the occasion of performances at the Theatre then existing upon the premises (see separate account of Buckingham Theatres). Also there is still in the "cock loft" a range of fixed wooden benches, or bedsteads, sufficient in number to accommodate a whole regiment of soldiers, and doubtless used for that purpose at the time of the Civil War, by the Loyalists quartered in the Borough.

Both the "White Hart" and "Swan and Castle" Hotels belonged to the Stowe estate, but on the death of the last Duke of Buckingham without male issue they reverted to his nephew, Earl Temple, who instructed Messrs. Bennett & Sons to sell them by auction on the 21st September, 1894, when Mr. Gough (tenant) bought the "White Hart" with the "Three Cups" Inn for £4,700 (subsequently selling off the "Three Cups" for £1,500 to Messrs. Blencowe); and the Aylesbury Brewery Co., Ltd., bought the "Swan and Castle" Inn for £2,080. Subsequently, at Mr. Gough's death, the "White Hart" again came into the market, and was sold on 25th April, 1899, by Messrs. Harrison & Sons, for £5,125 to Mr. F. W. Turner, who then took up his residence there.

It may be recorded as a "sign of the times" that within the memory of many of the natives of Buckingham no less than 10 licensed houses have been abolished for redundancy: the "Black Swan," the "Trooper," the "Fleece," the "George," the "Cobham Arms," the "Two Swans," the "Bell," the "Crown," the "Dolphin," and the "Rising Sun."

BUCKINGHAM THEATRE.

IN the days gone by when strolling companies paid longer visits to country towns than at the present time, a little gem of a Theatre was constructed over the coach-houses of the "Swan and Castle" Hotel, and performances were frequently given there. During the tenancy of Mr. James

LONDON ROAD BARN (THE OLD THEATRE.)

Connor, however, it was all swept away (having become merely a home for spiders) and the present Assembly Room was made and fitted with two billiard tables, serving bar, etc. In the course of time however, it was found to be rather a drag to go upstairs to the same, so a new billiard room was constructed adjoining the bar of the hotel on the ground floor, in the place of the former kitchen. When theatrical companies now visit Buckingham they make use of the Town Hall, which has been licensed for stage purposes.

About a century ago, a stone-built barn, which stood on the London Road just outside the town, was used as an occasional Theatre (see photo), but it was pulled down, and the materials were used for building the shop now occupied by Mr. Watts at the entrance to the Market Square (see chapter under the heading of " Kirby's Corner ").

THE POST OFFICE.

(From the " Buckingham Advertiser," 9th April, 1887.)

" OUR Post Office being about to be removed to the larger premises in West Street, it may be interesting to our readers to know the various changes of sites the Post Office at Buckingham has had during the past 70 years. We are indebted to Mr. Abraham Wheeler, Market Hill, for the particulars. For many years the Post Office was carried on in part of the premises of the old 'Cobham Arms' in West Street, now occupied by Mr. Reynold's grocery establishment, and, singularly enough, next door to the premises now about to be occupied. It was then removed to part of the 'White Hart' Hotel premises, belonging to Mr. James Harrison, sen., whose sister-in-law, Miss Hollier, managed it; then it was removed to Mr. Stallworthy's in West Street, in the house occupied by Mr. J. W. French; then to the premises now occupied by Messrs. Walford & Son, 'Advertiser' Office; then for a time to the

premises where Mr. G. R. Ellis's residence now stands near the Old Gaol; then to the premises now occupied by Mr. Joseph French's toy shop in Bridge Street; and then to the present premises in Bridge Street, between the 'Three Cups' Inn and the 'White Hart' gateway."

At the time first mentioned above, the "staff" comprised one official indoors and one out, the latter's duty being to go round and deliver what letters arrived in the morning, and in the evening to drive to Stony Stratford with letters posted during the day and meet the coach for London! The progress made since then may be judged by the fact that 30 employees now attend to the business, which includes ordinary Postage, Money Orders, Telegraph, Telephone, Savings Bank, Annuities, Licenses, etc., etc.

THE BUTCHERS' SHAMBLES.

IN the year 1814, the Marquis of Buckingham (who was a great benefactor to the town), employed Mr. James Harrison to erect on part of the Market Hill, then known as "Butcher's Row," a building to enable out-town butchers attending weekly to sell in shelter and comfort instead of being exposed to all weathers as formerly. Half of the site belonged to the Charity Trustees (where formerly stood a "Wool hall" fallen, however, into decay), and it was arranged that their plot should be leased to the Corporation at £11 per annum (as a practical "ground rent"), and that the Council should then take over the new building from the Marquis and conduct the lettings, etc. This was done, and answered well for over half a century, the stall rentals amounting, in 1833, to £30 per annum (Lipscombe), and so averaging up to about the year 1875. As the original stall-holders gradually died out, the younger generation of village butchers would not be at the trouble of driving in

THE OLD BULL RING.

weekly, and the number of stall-holders became so reduced that the Corporation allowed the lease above mentioned to run out on 21st December, 1886, and they and the Charity Trustees resolved to sell their respective portions of the property. It was accordingly put up to auction and was bought by, and divided between, two owners of houses in the Market Square running back to the said Shambles. Mr. Hull's portion has since been pulled down, and extra accommodation for his restaurant built on the site, and the other part has been converted into an ironmongery showroom.

The money realised by the Corporation for their share of the property was applied to building new cart horse stables for the borough team on the Municipal property at the sewage pumping station, and the amount realized by the "Charity" portion paid into their common fund.

In the year 1851, a local confectioner named R. T. Town took a contract for supplying the Great Exhibition in London with pork pies, and hired the Shambles just opposite his shop to make them in, where all the summer huge piles of appetising pastry filled the usually empty stalls. For many years, also Mr. Town conducted a considerable "Twelfth Cake" Lottery, till such institutions were declared illegal.

THE BULL RING.

BETWEEN what is now the "The Bakery" (formerly the "Market Hall") and the present barber's shop, is the open space now called Market Hill, once "The Bull Ring." Fortunately the spirit of the age does not now tolerate as a means of recreation the spectacle of a bull being fastened down by a thong and worried by dogs, but it is interesting to record the survival of the name. On the same site also the "Stocks" once stood, that ancient punishment for tramps

and evil doers, drunkards, etc. These Stocks were ultimately moved lower down the street nearly opposite Podd's Lane, (better known now as Moreton Road); their ultimate fate is not recorded, nor is it known what become of the pair which, within living memory, stood against the Old Churchyard wall on the bank where the footway enters from Church End.

(This "Market Hall" has sometimes been confused with the former "Wool Hall," also abutting on the Bull Ring, but on quite a different site.—See "Shambles.")

CHRIST'S HOSPITAL.

THIS ancient Charity is fully described in Mr. Roundell's Lecture, 1857, but the plain old building in which the "six unmarried women" resided becoming dilapidated and out of date as to sanitary arrangements, &c., the Charity Trustees decided to pull it down, and with the nucleus fund left by the late Alderman James Harrison for the purpose and the money realised by sale of the garden at the back running down to the river (on expiration of a 99 years' lease of same) to the owners of adjoining property, they were enabled to erect, at a cost of about £800, the present pretty block of six tenement rooms, in 1897. See the Memorial Stone on the chimney block, as follows:

"Founded
A.D. 1312.
Christ's Hospital,
refounded by
QUEEN ELIZABETH,
A.D. 1597.
Rebuilt in the 60th year
of the reign of
QUEEN VICTORIA,
A.D. 1897."

In Lyson's "Bucks" it is said that the endowment of this Hospital, "with the profits of the Wool Markets, and £5 from the profits of two Fairs," was the gift of a Mr. Harris. (See also Appendix No. 5 to Mr. Roundell's Lecture, 1857.)

THE OLD GAOL.

THE square portion of this stone built and slated castellated structure was erected in 1758; see inscription as follows on a memorial stone in the north wall (Market side), hardly now, however, decipherable :—

> "The Right Honourable Richard Grenville Temple, Lord Viscount Cobham, caused this edifice to be erected at his own expense for the use of this town and county, the Summer Assizes being restored to the place, and fixed here by Act of Parliament, in the year 1758."

In the year 1839, a handsome semi-circular Superintendent's residence was added on the south side at a cost of about £1,600, which was raised by loans as follows: Of Mr. Thomas Ridgway, £500; of Mr. Thomas Pargeter, £500; of Miss Harriett Bartlett, £500; and Mr. Joseph Holdom, £100. The amounts and interest were gradually cleared off at the rate of £100 per annum. This is said to have been the first structure designed by the afterwards celebrated architect, Sir George Gilbert Scott, who was the son of the Rev. Thomas Scott, of Gawcott, and at that time only a young rising man. Notwithstanding the great cost of the original building, and the added Superintendent's residence, the Gaol was condemned in 1892 (on the Borough Police being amalgamated with the County), and a new and more sanitary "Lock-up" was built on the Maids Moreton Road.

The Gaol having thus become effete, it was actually proposed by certain members of the Town Council at that date to pull it down and sell the old material, and tenders were obtained for its demolition. These were, however, so absurdly small that, fortunately, wiser counsels prevailed, and the picturesque building was saved, a new use being found for it by conversion into a "Fire Engine Station." It is also used as an ammunition store by the local Rifle Corps, and for sundry other storage purposes.

It may be interesting here to give a copy of the document (on parchment) recording the first "Appointment of a Watchman" for the Borough in 1792 :—

11th January, 1792.

"Appointment of a

WATCHMAN

for the Parish of

Buckingham.

"**Whereas** it was determined at a Publick Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Buckingham, to appoint a Watch within the said Borough, and to defray the charge and expence of such Watch by voluntary contributions. We whose Names are here subscribed do severally promise to pay to such person who shall be regularly appointed to collect the same; the several and respective sums set by us opposite to our names, and to continue to pay such subscription quarterly for the space of one whole year, and so in like manner in every year, until we severally give notice in writing, of the discontinuance of such subscriptions, at the time of paying the fourth quarterly payment in some one year, and every person subscribing sixpence per quarter shall have a Vote for the choice of a Watchman."

Here follow about 120 names, including :

Phil. Box,	3/-.	Ed. Emerton,	3d.
Jas. Bradford,	2/-.	John Bartlett,	3/-.
Thos. Hearn,	2/-.	T. Shillingford,	2/6.
Jas. Allen,	1/-.	R. Adcock,	6d.
B. Coles,	6d.	Geo. Nelson,	1/-.
Jno. Hadland,	6d.	Jno. Pittam,	6d.
Jno. Batchelor,	3d.	Thos. Griffiths,	6d.
Richd. North,	6d.	&c., &c.	

Total, £5 3s. 11d. (quarterly subscriptions).

Mr. Thos. Baker, on reading above, writes: "I well remember getting out of bed and going to the window to hear the Watchman say as he passed by, 'Past 12 o'clock and a moonshiny night,' this being of course varied with the hour and condition of weather."

THE RED BUILDINGS.

In J. J. Sheahan's "Bucks," it is recorded that in 1768 a man named Whitehead was whipped at the cart-tail from the Gaol to the Town Hall, and the compiler of these Notes can just recollect a similar degrading sight in the Square, but now, happily, more humane punishments for crime are substituted.

"THE RED BUILDINGS"

In the Old "Cow Fair," North End.

AFTER the calamitous Fire on 15th March, 1725, which destroyed about half the town, so many families were rendered homeless that Lord Cobham (of Stowe House) took pity upon them, and erected a bunch of cottages for their temporary accommodation. Built hurriedly, they were not ornamental, but served their purpose at the time, and were allowed to remain till the year 1866, when they became an unsatisfactory "slum," and were accordingly condemned, sold, and cleared right away, so that the beautiful Avenue of Limes, which Lord Addington proposed to plant below the Gaol, might go right down to North End Square. His Lordship then had the ground dug over about a yard deep, an entirely new sewer laid, and the trees planted—the total cost being reported to have exceeded £500.

THE NURSING HOME.

THIS was first established in the year 1868 by the united efforts of the late Rev. W. Foxley Norris, Vicar, and the late Miss Stowe. It was carried on for some years under a Committee of Management in a dwelling house in Castle Street belonging to the Stowe family, opposite to Trolly Hall, but the space being limited, and the demand for beds constantly increasing, the first Lord Addington (then the

Right Hon. J. G. Hubbard) most generously took the matter in hand, bought a site in "North End," and erected on the same the present very efficient and handsome building (from designs by Sir G. Gilbert Scott), and at the opening ceremony he and Lady Addington presented it as a free gift to the Borough. The dedication tablet is inscribed as follows:

"To the Great Physician
of souls and bodies,
Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
and in thankful remembrance
of the preservation from sudden death
of their Eldest Son, Egerton Hubbard, this Nursing Home
is humbly offered by his Parents,
A.D. 1886."

The actual opening ceremony was on 5th March, 1887. Since that time the scope of this most desirable and useful of all our local public institutions has been still further enlarged; "The DISTRICT Nursing Association" having been some years ago added to it. There are six beds in the Male Ward and six in the Female Ward, besides establishment accommodation, and it is seldom that any of the beds are unoccupied. The local doctors generously give gratuitous attendance on the patients.

THE WORKHOUSE.

A "UNION" WORKHOUSE was erected on the Stony Stratford Road in 1835, from the plans of Mr. G. G. Scott, architect, of Gawcott, at a cost of £8,215. It is a large substantial building of stone, and slated, and will accommodate 135 paupers. An Isolation Fever Ward, brick built and slated, was added about 40 years ago.

A great improvement was effected in the year 1898, when a new Board Room was added. Also, in accordance with an Act

of Parliament on the subject, a detached "Casual Ward" was built in 1898 near the entrance gates, with separate cells for each caller, in which they must perform an allotted task in return for board and lodging, bath, etc.

In the grounds at the back of the House some years ago a large quantity of excellent gravel and sand was dug out and sold, but the supply became exhausted, so the surface was levelled and devoted to vegetable gardening for the House supply.

Meetings of the Guardians are held here fortnightly, and two of the members are appointed fortnightly as House Visitors.

Prior to the building of the above Workhouse, there was a "Poor House" in Well Street adjoining the "Bull Inn."

THE CANAL.

(From "The Gentleman's Magazine," 1801.)

MAY 1ST.—"The branch of Canal from Buckingham to the Grand Junction Canal was opened this day with great rejoicings. A barge with the Marquis of Buckingham, Mr. Praed, and Mr. Selby (Gentlemen of the Committee), and Mr. Box, the Treasurer, accompanied by a large party of ladies and gentlemen, and a band of music, led the way to the procession of 12 barges, laden with coal, slate, and a variety of merchandise. Upon their entrance into the bason at Buckingham they were saluted by the firing of several pieces of cannon. A numerous party were handsomely entertained by the Marquis of Buckingham at the "Cobham Arms" Inn on this occasion, and a liberal supply of beer was given to the populace.

This branch of Canal, $9\frac{1}{4}$ miles in length, has been com-

pleted in about eight months, and will secure to an extensive district of country most substantial benefits."

At the present time this Canal Branch is fast becoming silted up, succumbing to railway competition; though spasmodic efforts have been occasionally made to clean it out and re-open the traffic.

The late Alderman Henry Thorpe established a most successful Artificial Manure Manufactory at the Wharf some 40 years ago, but severe competition and centralization ruined the business, and, as a Coal-Wharf, the extra facilities at the Railway Goods Station produced the same effect.

BATHING PLACE.

IN the year 1860 it was considered very desirable to utilise the River by making a Public Bathing Place, and a Committee having collected subscriptions, a portion of the stream at the bottom of Mr. Tibbetts' Yard (where it enters the town from Brackley) was cleaned out, wooden dressing boxes erected, and a spring board fixed, &c. Rules and regulations were drawn up to organise and carry the idea out, and swimming was vigorously indulged in. This went on most successfully for about 10 years, when several patrons having died, or left the town, the place fell into disuse, the boxes decayed, and the bed of the river became silted up. New attempts in more recent years have similarly been made to secure the advantages of a Bathing Place for the town, one in the river near the Goods Station, starting (1891) with 150 members, and lasting about another 10 years. At the present time, dressing boxes have been erected, and a length of river, widened and deepened, near the "Lower Wharf," for swimming and bathing.

TROLLY HALL.

A FAMOUS Bowling Green was made on Castle Hill in the year 1670 by a Mr. Robinson, who also built a large Hall (which was given the above name) for the entertainment of the gentry round, and which George Villiers (the then Duke of Buckingham) often honoured with his presence. The house in Castle Street now owned and occupied by Alfred Stowe, Esq., stands on the former site of this Hall, and is named after it.

THE CASTLE HILL.

BUCKINGHAM CASTLE formerly existed where our present Church stands.

In *Lyson's* "Bucks," 1806, page 526, we read:—

"It is supposed that the Castle was anciently a seat of the Gifford's, Earls of Buckingham. Camden observes that the great banks of the Castle, of which there were scarcely any other remains, divided the town almost in half; a part of the County Gaol, which stood on its site, remained in Browne Willis' time divided into tenements for poor people. In 1670 a Bowling Green was made on the Castle Hill, much resorted to by the gentlemen of the County. Mr. Willis says that the polls for the Knights were taken on this Hill, and he had heard that the Assizes were formerly held there, in booths put up for the purpose."

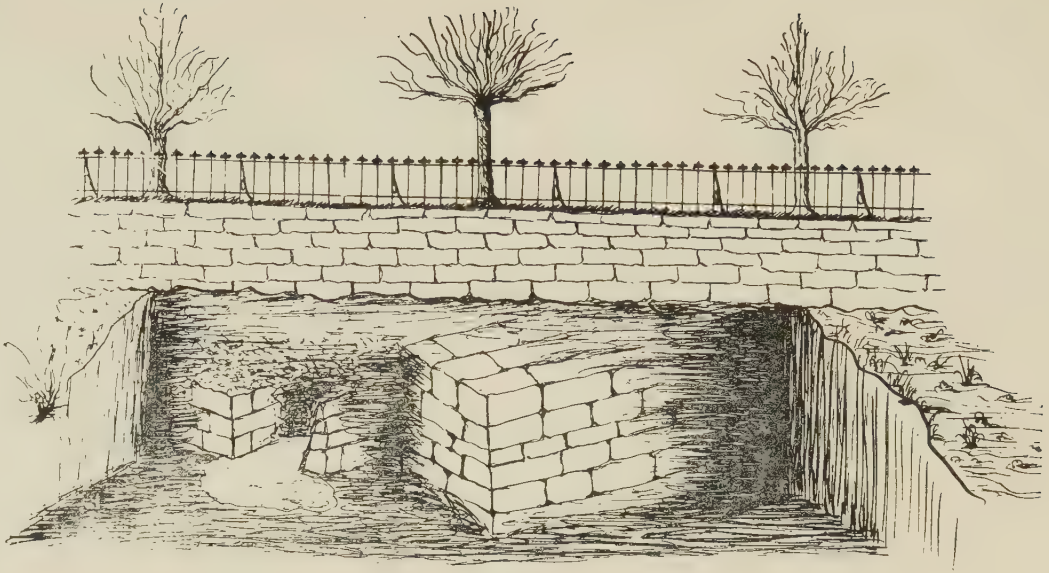
In *John Speed's* "Buckinghamshire," 1610 (book I., chapter xxii., foolscap size), he says: "The Shire Town Buckingham, fruitfully seated upon the river Ouse, was fortified with a rampire and sconces on both banks by King Edward the Elder, saith Mariannes, the Scotch writer."

In *John Speed's* "Buckingham," 1666, (one chapter out of an octavo book on the whole world), he says: "There, in the heart of the town, hath stood a strong Castle, mounted upon a high hill, which long since was brought to the period of her estate,

Discovery of the Old Castle Wall, at the site of an extension of the Wesleyan Sunday Schools. 1877.-

(The quoin of the Wall hung over 4 in.)

From the level of the boundary wall, on which the iron rail fence is fixed, - it was about 13 feet, to the site of the hearth — as exposed in getting out earth to make room for the School extension. — After the accompanying sketch was made, - the hearth, old wall, earth &c. was removed; back to the Church Hill boundary, & the new class room added; - The Fire-place in same will occupy pretty much the same position as the former one did. —



OLD FIREPLACE IN FORMER BUCKINGHAM CASTLE.

now nothing remaining besides the signs that there she had stood."

In *Emmanuel Bowen's* "Map of Buckinghamshire," 1756, he says: "And on a great mount in the middle of the town was built a strong Castle, formerly in the possession of Humphrey, Duke of Buckingham, long since in ruins."

In *Browne Willis'* "History of Buckingham," 1755, page 49, it mentions "Elias de Camvil, Constable of Buckingham Castle," as living in 1280. Also in an old volume in the *Corporation Records* an entry occurs as to a "Constable of the Castle," 41st year of Queen Elizabeth.

In *Mr. Roundell's* Lecture, (22nd January, 1857), pp. 6 and 7, it states: "Traditionally we believe in a Castle here, for tradition has preserved a record in the well-known names 'Castle Street,' 'Castle Hill,' 'Castle Mills,' 'Castle Farm,' yet no written record is extant of the building of a Castle, nor, as far as I know, do any certain traces of foundation remain." (See note following.)

Although all traces of "Buckingham Castle" had thus apparently disappeared, yet in the year 1877, on Mr. John Munday, builder, excavating some soil at the back of the *Wesleyan Chapel* abutting on the Castle Hill (for the purpose of building extra class rooms there), he came upon some ancient masonry of evidently excellent workmanship. He called the attention of the late Alderman James Harrison to the same, and the latter made a rough sketch of it, with some memos. as to size, etc., considering that this was without doubt part of the Castle ruins—probably a kitchen with open hearth, as the stones shewed evident signs of having been submitted to fire heat up to about a yard high from the paved level (see sketch). It has also been held that the large sized stone-built Well in Dr. Bruce Pearson's outbuilding is the original Castle Well.

In an engraving of a view of Buckingham from the south-west published in 1803 it is quite evident there were at that time no lime trees round the Church Hill, but they were planted probably not long after. In 1903 the trees

having, however, attained such proportions as to block out entirely (when in full leaf) the view of the fabric from the best approaches to the town, the Corporation resolved to cut out every alternate tree. This necessarily gives a somewhat ragged appearance now, but in course of a few years it is hoped that the improvement may be fully realized.

The handsome cast-iron palisading round the Hill was erected by the Council in 1859.

The following cutting from the "*Buckingham Advertiser*" (1858) is inserted as a record of the way money was raised in those days; as preserving the date of the Church Hill wall, and the date when the Hill was acquired by the Corporation, and as a reminder that in the first instance the wall on the southern side was not built on the outside boundary of the property. The soil was, however, made up to the Church Hill level, the plot added to the Hill, and the outer boundary wall raised by the Corporation some 10 years later.

THE CHURCH HILL.

At the last meeting of the Town Council, an official report of the committee appointed to carry out the alterations and improvements on and around the Church Hill, was presented by the late Mayor (E. Parrott, Esq.) It was as follows:—

"The Church Hill, having become the property of the Mayor and Corporation, by an arrangement with the Marquis of Chandos, and its boundary fence being in a most dilapidated condition, it was found necessary to repair it, and various discussions were held by the Council on the subject, but as they were advised that the cost of these necessary repairs could not be defrayed out of the borough rate, the Mayor (E. Parrott, Esq.), called a meeting of the inhabitants to consider the possibility of such repairs being done by public subscription. A meeting having been held, a committee was formed, and consisted of the following gentlemen: the Mayor, the Rev. H. Roundell, Mr. P. Box, Mr. H. Humphreys, and Mr. G. King, who, after various meetings, collected funds, and invited tenders for the work. In June, 1857, the committee contracted with Mr. W. H. Tibbetts to do the work for £200, according to the specification then made. Mr. P. Box gave stone for the pur-

pose, but the supply from his property at the foot of the hill having failed, the committee were compelled to purchase the required quantity, which they did of Mr. Taylor, of Brackley, at an additional cost of £42 3s. 9d. The committee found that the cartage of this stone from the railway involved an additional expense, though the greater part of it was done, as well as the cartage of the gravel from the Union Workhouse, by those gentlemen whose names are appended to this report. The additional cost for stone and extra work, such as for mending the sunken boundary wall for a few yards beyond the iron fence at this point (the north-east angle of the hill), and other incidentals, amounted altogether to £88 1s. 5d. beyond the original contract.

"The committee beg to observe that a piece of ground some yards square, now without the boundary, but which is supported by the sunken wall above referred to, is part of the same property as the hill."

"The cost of gravel and the labour for putting down for the whole of the walks amounted to £25 5s. 0d., of which the Churchwardens of the parish have paid £8 5s. 0d., as an assumed proportion of the expense for the walks bounding and belonging to the Church. The Council having raised the salary of the Mayor to £50 a year, for his two years of office—namely: from November, 1856, to November, 1858—he appropriated the whole of it to the above purpose.

"The following are those who kindly sent their teams to perform the carting of stones and gravel gratuitously: Messrs. J. Bacon, Joseph Barton, Thomas Beards, James Bennett, N. Horwood, R. Ridgway, Thomas Ridgway, Thomas Ridgway, jun., E. Ridgway, R. Rogers, T. Roper, Samuel Sheppard, H. Thorpe, R. Warr, W. Warr, and Mrs. J. Sear.

"The total amount received was: the Mayor's Salary, £100; Subscriptions, £222 14s. 11d. = £322 14s. 11d.; payments to Mr. Tibbetts, £297 8s. 5d.; for gravel and labour in putting it down, &c., £25 6s. 6d.; total, £322 14s. 11d."

THE CHURCH BELLS.

(From "The Parish Magazine," March, 1908.)

IT is with great pleasure that we are able to report the completion of the re-hanging of our Bells. It was arranged with the Revd. F. E. Robinson (the Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Bell-ringers) before the work was begun that, directly it was completed, he should

bring a band of ringers and test the bells by ringing a "grand peal." This took place on Thursday, January 30th. The peal consisted of 5,040 changes, and took 3 hours and ten minutes to ring. The verdict of the Master was, that we had the most beautiful peal of bells, and the best belfry in the county. He also expressed himself as perfectly satisfied with the work of the re-hanging. After the peal was over, the Vicar invited our own ringers to join the guests at the Vicarage for tea.

Since the bells were finished, the Churchwardens have had some carpenter's work done in the belfry, and we believe that now everything is in a perfect condition. Mr. Bowell's bill for £90 has been paid. (This was for filing away and knocking off the original crown staples, and then hanging the bells on iron girders, with the centre of gravity lowered, so that the exertion of ringing is thus minimised.)

LIST OF THE BELLS.

No. 1.—Inscription: "I mean to make it understood, that tho' I'm little yet I'm good."—Chapman & Mears of London—fecerunt 1782.

„ 2.—Inscription: "If you have a judicious ear, you'll own my voice is sweet and clear."—Chapman & Mears of London—fecerunt 1782.

„ 3.—Inscription: "Our voices shall with joyful sound, make hills and valleys echo round."—Chapman & Mears of London—fecerunt 1782.

„ 4.—Inscription: "Such wondrous power to musick's given, it elevates the soul to Heaven."—Chapman & Mears of London—fecerunt 1782.

„ 5.—Inscription: "Musick is medicine to the mind."—Chapman & Mears of London—fecerunt 1782.

„ 6.—Inscription: "Whilst thus we join in chearfull sound, may love and loyalty abound."—Chapman & Mears of London—fecerunt 1782.

„ 7.—Inscription: "In wedlock bands, all ye who join, with hands your heart unite, so shall our tuneful tongues combine and laud the nuptial rite."—Chapman & Mears of London—fecerunt 1782.

„ 8.—Inscription: "William Elliott, Bailiff, Richard Wheeler, T. Town, W. Boughan, W. and J. Norris, Collectors."—J. Mander hang us.—Chapman & Mears of London—fecerunt 1782.

The Church Bell-ringers at one time possessed a set of handbells, with which they paraded the town at Christmas-tide.

THE CHURCH.

THE most conspicuous ornament in Buckingham is the Parish Church, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, erected in 1777-81 on Castle Hill. The Old Church in Prebend End, a cruciform edifice, had a lofty spire 163 feet in height from the ground, which collapsed on the 7th February, 1699. The building then remained for a series of years in a more or less dilapidated state, until Dr. Browne Willis collected funds and had the tower raised, but this made it too heavy, and on the 26th March, 1776, the tower fell, and the whole structure was thereupon pulled down and removed, and the present Church erected (largely with the old material) on the new site. The funds for this purpose were raised partly by Bonds (of which the following is a copy), and the balance was kindly contributed by Richard Earl Temple, K.G., the total cost being about £7,000 :—

"**At a Public Meeting** *of the Trustees appointed by an Act of Parliament made in the Seventeenth year of the Reign of his present Majesty King George the Third, Entitled 'An Act for building a new Church within the Town and Parish of Buckingham,' holden by adjournment at the Town Hall of the said parish, this fourteenth day of July, in the year of our Lord, One thousand Seven hundred and Seventy Seven, before George Nugent Grenville, Esquire, The Reverend Robert Pargeter, Clerk, Walter Roade, Thomas Knight, Benjamin Ashwell, Bonton Seeley, James Bradford, Philip Box, William Goode, and John Sayer, Gentlemen.*

"**Whereas** *John Wise of Middleton Cheney, in the County of Northampton, Cordwainer, hath contributed, advanced, and paid into the hands of Philip Box of Buckingham, aforesaid, Mercer and Draper; by the Order of Richard Grenville Temple 'Earl Temple,' and by our direction; The sum of One hundred pounds of lawful money of Great Britain, for the absolute purchase of one annuity of Eight pounds of lawful money, for and during the natural Life of him the said John Wise, to be charged upon and payable out of the rates of the said Town and parish of Buckingham; to be raised by virtue of the said Act;* **And Whereas** *it has been agreed between us*

CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL.

(being seven of the Trustees appointed by the above-mentioned Act of Parliament) and the said John Wise that the said annuity of Eight Pounds per Annum shall be paid yearly and every year during the natural Life of him the said John Wise by two half-yearly payments, on the fifth day of April and the tenth day of October in every year, the first half-yearly payment to be made on the tenth day of October now next ensuing. **Now** *we whose names are hereunto Set and Subscribed (being seven of the Trustees appointed by the said Act of Parliament) in Consideration of the said Sum of One Hundred pounds so contributed, advanced and paid by the said John Wise as aforesaid, Do by virtue of, and in pursuance of the directions of the said Authority order, direct, and appoint, that there be paid yearly and every year out of the rates of the said Town and Parish of Buckingham, to be raised by virtue of the said Act of Parliament unto the said John Wise, for and during the Term of his natural Life, one annuity or clear yearly Sum of Eight pounds of lawful money of Great Britain: or by two equal half-yearly payments on the fifth day of April and on the tenth day of October in every year; the first payment of four pounds to be made on the tenth day of October now next ensuing.* **And we do further order and appoint** *that the said annuity of Eight pounds per annum shall be charged upon, and be paid, and payable out of the said Rates. And we do hereby charge and make the same payable from time to time out of the money arising by the Rates and Assessments by the said Act of Parliament directed to be made, according to the provisions and directions of the said Act."*

GEORGE NUGENT GRENVILLE. WM. GOODE.
W. ROADE. JAMES BRADFORD.
PHIL. BOX. EDW. BOX.
B. SEELEY. J. SAYER.
ROBERT PARGETER. THOS. KNIGHT.

Witnesses—
JOHN EDGAR.
JOHN GARRETT.

The Church consists of chancel with aisle, nave of 6 bays, aisles, South porch, and a battlemented Western tower with pinnacles and a light tapering spire, which rises to the height of

150 feet from the ground; the grandfather of our townsman, Philip Inns, being the mason who fixed the ball and weather-vane. There are 8 bells and a 3-faced clock in the tower. The building was originally designed in the classic style, the interior having columns and arched ceiling richly ornamented; (the altar piece, presented by a former Marquis of Buckingham, being a copy of Raphael's "Transfiguration;") but in 1860 several ominous cracks having appeared in the walls (at the West end especially), it was resolved to examine the foundations; on doing so it was discovered that these were only carried down about 4 feet to a thin layer of rock resting on clay underneath, which had permitted of settlement therefore in places. The Vicar (Rev. W. Foxley Norris) called a meeting of the Church Wardens and principal Parishioners to consider what should be done, and it was resolved to put in new foundations for buttresses all round the Church down to the bed-rock at 14 feet deep. This accordingly was done, and now in course of years the buttresses themselves have been gradually built (by private and public subscription) all round the edifice upon these new foundations. A chancel was added in 1865, the gift of the late Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, the inscription on the foundation stone of which is as follows:—

THIS FOUNDATION STONE
OF THE CHANCEL, ERECTED BY
RICHARD PLANTAGENET CAMPBELL GRENVILLE,
THIRD DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS,
WAS LAID BY
CAROLINE, DUCHESS OF BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS,
JULY 6, 1865.

[A hole was chiselled out of the centre of the stone, and a bottle cemented in containing some coins and a record of the gift, and the date.]

A Side Aisle was also given by the late Lord Addington, and the original plain Italian structure, with a gallery all round (now removed), has been turned into a graceful modern Gothic Church, which it is hoped may stand for many generations, the cost of alterations being upwards of £13,000.

"THREE DECKER" PULPIT IN BUCKINGHAM CHURCH (1780.)

To provide the sites for the chancel addition, side aisle, and a new South porch entrance, it became necessary to add to the "consecrated" ground on which the Church stood; this was accordingly increased from 11 feet to about 18 feet wide all round the original building, and conveyed from the Corporation (as owners of the Castle Hill) to the Parish Churchwardens, and consecrated by Bishop Wilberforce in 1867. [Bricks on end are buried under the gravel in places to shew this line, which goes up the middle of the South drive, round the Church, and it is practically impossible therefore to fence it out above ground.]

Many stained windows have been erected as memorials, and include one to the Rev. H. Roundell, the Rev. W. Foxley Norris, the Rev. F. G. Kiddle (former Vicars), another to a former Curate (who died at Zanzibar), and the beautiful East chancel window presented by the Buckingham Needle and Thread Society, as well as many others given privately. In 1883, the high oak pews (of personal ownership) were removed, and chairs substituted, so making it a "free-seated" Church, and holding about 1,000 worshippers. In 1888 the Organ was enlarged by private subscription, and in 1890 the Chancel floor was laid with black and white marble, the gift of a parishioner. The floor of the Sanctuary has been re-paved with marble; the carving of the Sedilia, &c., completed; a Chiming apparatus added; new Heating arrangements have been made, &c., &c.; these interior embellishments and improvements involving a cost of some £10,000. Attached to the Church is an endowment of £18 18s. 0d. yearly, given by Mr. Philip Box, for the repair and maintenance of the organ. A Reredos of interesting character was given by the Needle and Thread Society in 1904: the design is the Nativity of our Lord; on the scroll are the words: "Peace on earth, goodwill towards men." The Register of Baptisms and Burials date from the year 1561; Marriages from 1559. There is also in the Church a Latin Bible presented by Archdeacon Ruding in the 14th Century (see chapter *re* same).

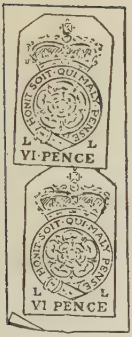
The LIVING is a Vicarage, of the net yearly value of £280, with residence, in the gift of the Bishop of Oxford; it has been held since 1899 by the Rev. Philip Proctor Goldingham, who is also Chaplain to the Buckingham Union Workhouse, and Surrogate.

Before 1445, Buckingham was a Chapelry attached to the neighbouring Church of King's Sutton, but was at that date made a separate Vicarage. The great tithes, together with the Manor of Gawcott, were appropriated to a Prebendal stall in Lincoln Cathedral, called the Prebend of Sutton-cum-Buckingham, once held by the illustrious William of Wykeham (founder of New College, Oxford), but surrendered to the Crown in 1547.

The VICARAGE HOUSE is an ancient building, supposed to have been built in the reign of Charles II. It stands on a site originally given to the benefice, when it was first constituted a Vicarage in the year 1445, and the present Vicarage Garden, sloping down to the River Ouse, appears to be precisely the ancient "Field of Walnuts" of that early date. In the large dining room is a beautiful and massive chimney-piece, finely designed and carved out of slabs of rude marble, discovered in the parish, and presented by the Marquess of Buckingham to the Vicarage.

A SCHOOL CHAPEL of stone, in the Early English style, after a design by the late G. E. Street, Esq., R.A., was erected in 1865 on Bone Hill, to serve the joint purpose of a Day School and a Mission Chapel for the working people of that portion of the town, but is now used solely as a Mission Chapel, and will seat 60 persons.

At the North end of the parish is another MISSION CHAPEL (of iron and wood), built in 1872 on part of the grounds of the Nursing Home, and seating 80 persons.



We the Minister and Church Warden of the Parish and Parish Church of Buckingham in the County of Bucks — Do hereby Certify That Newman Williatt of Buckingham aforesaid Gentleman — on Sunday the Thirty First Day of July last did receive the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in the Parish Church aforesaid immediately after Divine Service and Sermon according to the Usage of the Church of England In Witness whereof we have hereunto subscribed our Hands the Sixth Day of October 1785.

Wm. Expre — {Minister of the Parish and Parish Church aforesaid

Robt. Miller — {Church Warden of the said Parish and Parish Church

James Jones and John Daniel — Do severally make Oath That they did see the said Newman Williatt — in the above written Certificate named And who now present hath delivered the same into this Court Receive the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in the Parish Church aforesaid And that they did see the said Certificate subscribed by the said Minister and Church Warden.

James Jones
John Daniel

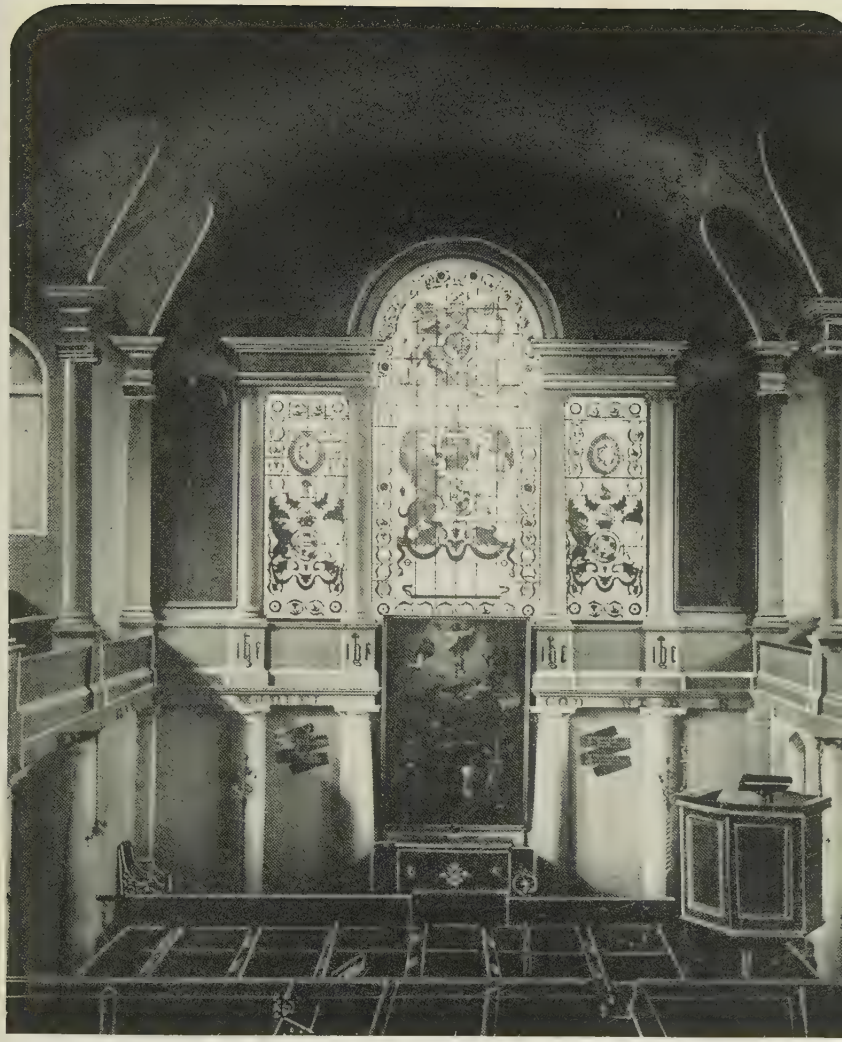
[Mr. Williatt was "Bailiff" in 1785, and this Certificate is reproduced merely as a record of what was then officially required.]

Vicars of Buckingham since 1862:

Rev. Henry Roundell, M.A.; resigned through ill health, 1862.
Rev. W. Foxley Norris, appointed 1862; left for Witney, 1879.
Rev. F. G. Kiddle, appointed 1879; left for Brightwell, 1899.
Rev. P. P. Goldingham, appointed 1899; present Vicar.

(For list of previous Vicars see Mr. Roundell's Lecture, 1857.)

The original Organ, which was presented by the late Philip Box, Esq., was erected in the Western gallery at the beginning of the present century, and bore this inscription: "Georgius King, Londini, Fecit 1801. No. 24, Marsham Street, Westminster." About the year 1820 pedals were added by Messrs. Bevington & Co., of London, and forty years afterwards (when a choir was first formed) some further alterations were made by Messrs. Squire & Co., of London. In 1868 the organ was removed by Mr. Atterton, of Leighton Buzzard, into the organ chamber in the chancel aisle. In 1869 some further alterations were made by Mr. Atterton, and four new stops (double diapason, cornopean, obœ and cremona) were added. In July, 1887, it was decided to clean, repair and enlarge the Organ, and the work was again entrusted to Mr. Atterton. The old front has been replaced by a spotted metal front (open diapason) in a case of Riga oak. New overhanging key boards (3 rows) with splayed jaws (enclosed by a plate-glass door) have been inserted. New action has been used throughout, two extra pedal stops (Bourdon and violoncello) added, the trumpet stop re-cast, the whole of the pipes cleaned and re-adjusted, new and larger bellows substituted and placed on a platform in the vestry, by which arrangement increased accommodation is given for the Choir. The old organ front is now re-erected at the East end of the organ chamber, and the open diapason on the pedal organ is placed in the arch at the East end of the North aisle. Organist, Mr. H. Young (appointed 1871).



EAST WINDOW OF BUCKINGHAM CHURCH (1780).

THE CHAPELS.

IN addition to the Parish Church, there are three Nonconformist places of public worship and a Roman Catholic College. The largest of these is the CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH or Chapel, a semi-gothic or Early English edifice in Church Street, erected in 1857 at a cost of £2,000. It is calculated to seat over 600 persons. Adjoining the same is a picturesque range of Sunday Schools and Class Rooms added in 1876-9, at a cost of over £1,600. The whole block is stone built—a very worthy contribution to the public buildings in the town. The School foundation stone is inscribed as follows:

"THIS MEMORIAL STONE WAS LAID BY
W. H. FRENCH, ESQ., J.P.
JUNE, 1876."

The WESLEYAN CHAPEL, in Well Street, is a stuccoed and slated building, erected in 1782, and enlarged in 1834 to accommodate 350 persons. In the year 1877, extra Class Rooms were built at the back of the Chapel. (See paragraph *re* Castle Hill for interesting particulars about some "foundations" unearthed at this time.)

The BAPTIST CHAPEL in "Podd's Lane" (Maids Moreton Road), is brick built and stuccoed. It was erected by subscription (£900) in 1842, and has seating accommodation for about 250. There is a burial ground adjoining, but now disused. The building has been used as a place of worship for many years past by the Primitive Methodists, but no services are held at the present time in the chapel. Adult immersions were at one time practised here to the great amusement of the "small boys" of the period. (N.B.—Since the foregoing was written the freehold has been sold to Mr. J. R. Gough.)

Services are held at the ROMAN CATHOLIC COLLEGE, a brick and slated building erected in the year 1894, on the London Road just outside the town, but of course they are of a semi-private character. The following inscription is engraved on the foundation stone of this building:

D.O.M.

✠

SUB TUTELA S. BERNARDINE SENESIS.
SUM. PONT. LEONE XIII. VICTORIA REGNANTE.
ME POSUIT REVINUS ARTHURUS RIDDELL.
EPISCOPUS NORTHAMPTONIENSIS.
PRIDIE IDUS JUMB, A.D. 1894.

About half a century ago there was a considerable sect of "QUAKERS" in Buckingham, with a Chapel in High Street and burial ground adjoining, but "The Friends" having all either left the town or died out, the Chapel has now been converted to commercial purposes, the burying place still being preserved intact, but of course not now used for sepulture.

SAINT RUMBOLD'S COFFIN.

UNDER the will of Richard Fowler, in 1477, a coffin was ordered to be made for the above Saint, in the following terms:—

> "I will that in the same aisle there be made of newe a Tomb or Shrine for the said Sainte, and upon the said Tomb I will that there be set a coffyn or a chest, curiously wrought and gilte, as it apperteyneth, for to lay in the bones of the said Sainte."

This, of course, was in the aisle built by Fowler in the old Church, and it is a question what became of the said coffin when the Church was destroyed on the 26th March, 1776. Some few years ago, however, the late Mr. J. Harrison, jun., happened to notice in a cottage close to the old church site, a piece of carved wood which he felt convinced upon examination was one side of the above coffin. He bought it, and had it very carefully cleaned, and restored it himself where faulty. A photo of it is here given, and the reader will see the great probability there is of this being a true conjecture. In a memo. made at the time, and affixed at the back, Mr. Harrison

PART OF PRESUMED "COFFYN" OF ST. RUMBOLD.

says: "Piece of carving found in a partition nailed on as a patch to cover a hole, and plastered with several old layers of whitewash. Is this one side of 'The Coffyn'?"

SAINT RUMBOLD'S WELL.

MR. ROUNDELL, referring to this subject in his Lecture (page 3), records that "as was the custom of those days, several churches, wells, and springs were dedicated to this Saint. One of his wells was at Astrop in the parish of King's Sutton; three at Brackley, and *several* at Buckingham." He afterwards speaks of one near the "Cross Keys," Lenborough Road, having been filled up in the year 1830, and the only one now remaining of any note is the spring enclosed and protected by the little "Conduit House" near the Goods Station (on the opposite side of the Tingewick road). This building was erected in 1623 by William and Mary Lambard (as a stone in the wall with their initials on bears testimony to), and the leaden pipes conveying the water from there to "Castle House" (now the residence of Mr. Herbert Bull), are also stamped with the same initials.

Although the Conduit House was not built till 1623, the "Spring" is shewn in Speed's map of 1610 (see block of same herein), though by a singular incident he failed to engrave the letter V against it to correspond with the reference at side of his map; but in a very ancient tracing of a part of same for a similar map by Nicholas Blaen (formerly in the possession of the Rev. F. G. Kiddle), the V *is* duly inserted against the site of the Spring. Moreover, the Compiler of these "Notes" has seen a copy of the Deed giving the right to the owner of Castle House to cross the Tingewick and Brackley Roads with the water piping, as follows:—

"1667, January 22nd.—By Indenture . . . The Bailiffe and Burgesses of the Borough of Buckingham, for the consideration therein mentioned did give and grant to the said Wm.

Lambert, full license and authority to continue certain pipes of lead over the highway from Castle Mills towards Tingewick, and also from Fowler's End towards Ratley, also across the River Ouse, as they were then laid, and to continue same from *St. Rumbold's Well* into the dwelling of the said Wm. Lambert, &c., &c."

Another of his reputed wells was situated at the head of "Well Street" and of "St. Rumbold's Lane," but this was filled in and built over when the present Congregational Schools were erected.

St. Rumbold was a rather mythical Saint, said to have been the son of a British King by a Christian Princess, born at King's Sutton, lived only three days, but during that time said to have been baptized, and immediately expired, leaving directions to be buried at King's Sutton for a year, and then at Buckingham "for ever." Multitudes of pilgrims used to visit his shrine, in fact old John Speed, the Historian and Geographer, in 1610, says: "The river circulates the town except on the North, and into it runs the springs of a well, called St. Rumbold's, a child-sainte born at King's Sutton, canonized, and in the church of this town, enshrined with many conceited miracles and cures; such was the happe of those times, to produce saints of all ages and sexes."

BARTON'S HOSPITAL.

BARTON'S HOSPITAL, in Church Street, was founded by John Barton in 1431, for six poor persons, to each of whom he gave a groat per week that they might pray for his soul, and keep his obit, or anniversary, in the parish church, in which church, by his will, he founded a chantry at the altar of St. James. The chantry was suppressed at the reformation, but the Hospital remains in the shape of Almshouses for six poor widows. The founder of the chantry was buried in St. Rumbold's aisle in the old parish church. In the Parliamentary Returns of 1786, some land is stated to have

been given by the will of Dorothy Dayrell, dated 1583, to six poor women resident in six tenements called Barton's Hospital. This land was at that time vested in Lord Sackville and another, and produced £5 4s. 0d. yearly. The income of the almshouses now consists of this rent-charge, and the dividends on £100 Consols given by Mrs. Elizabeth Gray, of Buckingham, who died in 1856, to be expended in the purchase of coal for the use of the inmates.

The old tenements of 1431 were pulled down and rebuilt in 1701, as is simply recorded on a stone tablet. There is a considerable plot of garden ground at the back, divided into six strips, on which each occupier can grow her own vegetables.

ST. JOHN'S ROYAL LATIN SCHOOL.

THIS School is stated to have been founded by Dame Isabel Denton in 1540, who gave by will four marks yearly to a Priest to teach children in augmentation of his means of living. The School was under the management of the Corporation (see names of School Masters elected by them) until the Corporation Act altered this, and placed it under certain Charity Trustees. The Schoolroom is the oldest building in the town, and was erected by Matthew Stratton (who was Archdeacon of Buckingham from about 1219 to 1268), and dedicated to St. John Baptist and Thomas à Beckett, as a Chantry Chapel. Though used as a Schoolroom, the Chapel preserves many of its original features, including the recessed Norman doorway with characteristic zig-zag ornament, piscina, and an aumbry, etc. We learn from Mr. Roundell's Lecture (1857) that in the lapse of years the Chapel became dilapidated, and the roof falling in, the ground floor was dug up and utilised by one of the neighbours as a vegetable garden! Both in the garden and courtyard human remains have at times been found, shewing that at some period it has been used as a Cemetery.

In the year 1857, it was found necessary to appeal for subscriptions to put the buildings in repair, and the following copy of the circular then issued gives considerable information about the institution :—

ST. JOHN'S ROYAL LATIN SCHOOL OF BUCKINGHAM.

Founded by Edward VI., 1552.

An endeavour is now made to repair and restore to a state more decent and fitting to the town of Buckingham (of which it is a most interesting and ancient building), the room used for the Latin School. Its Norman doorway dates back as far as 1260, when the building was originally erected as a Chantry Chapel, by Mathew Stratton, Archdeacon of Buckingham; and in 1471, it was rebuilt by Prebendary Ruding. The East window and one upon the South side, now blocked up, are evidently his work, and several oak stall-ends from the Chancel of the former Parish Church (still preserved in the Schoolroom) exactly coincide with the date of this window.

At the dissolution of the Religious Houses in 1548, this foundation shared the fate of its neighbours; but in 1552, 3rd Edward VI., it was converted to its present use, and endowed with a rent charge of £10 8s. o¾d. per annum payable out of the Exchequer. This sum is (with the exception of the use of the dwelling house) the sole endowment of the Master, who must instruct six foundation boys in the English and Latin languages free of charge. After the fall of the Parish Church in 1776, much of the timber from it was used for a new roof to this Schoolroom, which, for five years, was used for Divine service (half the congregation attending in the mornings and the other half in the afternoons). At that time a gallery was erected round the sides of the building, and subsequently an entire floor laid across the room, supported on the gallery pillars, so that the original building was divided into two rooms, the upper of which was used for the School and the lower as a store or cellar. This floor has been removed, the ground floor newly laid, and a heating flue and apparatus laid down by the present Master.

Attached to the present Schoolroom, on the North side, is the Master's house; upon this site stood the dwelling of the Chantry Priest, subsequently the residence of the School Masters, but this house was burnt down in 1685, and the present edifice erected by Mr. Alexander Denton in 1690, whose Coat of Arms may still be seen over the door. Provision was made for the tenantable repair of these premises by payment of dilapidations, and upon the decease of the Rev. Wm. Eyre in 1830, a sum of upwards of seventy pounds was paid on this account. Since that date the

OAK STALL ENDS FROM THE OLD CHURCH.

house gradually went to decay through the need of repair, but upon the death of the late Master in 1855, in reduced circumstances, it was found necessary to put the dwelling house into complete order, and the cost of this, together with the expenses of the appointment of the Master, amounted to upwards of ninety-five pounds.

No appeal for public aid was put forth in 1855, for it was felt by the Trustees that such an appeal in the existing state of the School would be premature, and though anxious for the revival of this decayed foundation, they thought that their endeavours to re-establish the School would not have met with the desired success. The experience of the last two years has proved these forebodings to have been groundless, and the Committee can now rest their claim to support with confidence on the gradual progress which the School has made in the estimation of the public, and their conviction that by the repair and improvement of the Schoolroom and premises, they are providing in perpetuity a place of sound instruction and useful knowledge for the town and neighbourhood of Buckingham.

It is now intended to repair and plaster the walls, to open Archdeacon Ruding's window, to put a new stone head to the doorway, to remove the present flat ceiling, thus opening out the timber of the roof and adding to the healthiness and ventilation of the building; and to erect a new bell turret according to a design kindly given by G. G. Scott, Esq.

The sum of one hundred pounds will be found necessary to liquidate the debt and complete these improvements, and of this sum a portion is already in hand, raised by a liberal donation from the Archdeacon of Buckingham, by gifts from personal friends of the Master, and by the proceeds of two Lectures given in aid of the Repair Fund. More than seventy pounds are still required, and the following gentlemen have formed themselves into a Committee, to which the Master, and Mr. Henry Hearn, have consented to act as Secretaries.

The Master of the School.	Mr. George King.
The Vicar of Buckingham.	Mr. Chandler.
The Mayor of Buckingham.	Mr. H. Hearn.
Mr. Humphreys.	

Contributions may be paid to any Member of the Committee at the Bucks and Oxon, or the London and County Banks at Buckingham.

The following copy of a record in the Schoolroom dated 1879, shews that it had again become necessary to lay out a considerable sum on the premises:—

THIS SCHOOLROOM
WAS RESTORED
BY PUBLIC SUBSCRIPTION,
THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF THE MASTERS AND BOYS,
AT A COST OF £200,
A.D. 1879,
THREE NEW WINDOWS BEING THEN INSERTED,
THE BELL RE-CAST,
AND A NEW BELL-COTE ERECTED.
SIR GILBERT SCOTT, R.A., *Architect.*
REV. THOMAS COCKRAM, M.A., *Head Master.*

LIST OF MASTERS

(brought forward and continued from Mr. Roundell's list), when the Master of the School in 1857 was

The Rev. T. R. I. Laugharne, M.A., who left in 1861,
and was suceeded by
The Rev. Louis Borrissow (Curate), appointed in 1861,
and was succeeded by
Mr. Thomas Cockram (of Gawcott School), appointed in 1871,
(Mr. Cockram studied for the Church during his Head Mastership, and was ordained in 1881).
and was succeeded by
Mr. R. C. McCulloch, appointed in 1891.

He failed in 1895, and temporary arrangements had to be made to keep the school open till Mr. W. Matthew Cox, of Bletchley School, was appointed in 1896. He carried on the school till, on 1st August, 1907, it was transferred, under arrangement with the Trustees (see Scheme No. 152, Board of Education, 1907), to newly erected school premises built by the County Education Authorities on the Chandos Road. Mr. Cox, however, in 1908, accepted an appointment at a school in Somerset, and Mr. Wm. Fuller, M.A. (Cambs.), (of Banbury Technical School), was appointed Head Master.

In consequence of this transfer, the Trustees have sold off the "1690" residence to an adjoining owner for £330, and he is entirely re-modelling same; but the Chantry Chapel

THE OLD ST. JOHN'S ROYAL LATIN SCHOOL.

will probably be confided to the care of the "National Trust for the preservation of Ancient Buildings."

The plain oak pannelling lining the Chapel walls is said to have come out of Lillingstone Dayrell Church—but the pew ends, now used as desks, (and alluded to in the foregoing circular), are more specifically described by the Rev. Hastings Kelke on page 66 of the first number of "Bucks Records." He writes: "Lyson says the ancient pews still remain, but this is a curious mistake. When the Parish Church fell down in 1776 all the materials were sold, and from the general wreck about eight or nine pew ends were purchased by the then Master of this School and placed for ornaments' sake in the Boys' Schoolroom. It is curious that Lipscomb does not mention that this building was originally an ecclesiastical structure, although he gives a woodcut of it from which the accompanying illustration is taken."

THE NATIONAL SCHOOL.

THIS building, in School Lane, was erected in 1819. It was originally designed to be built on a site near the Barracks in Stowe Road, but the present position was eventually selected in preference. It was extensively improved in 1856 at a cost of £400, and when later a School Board was established here, the Vicar (Rev. W. F. Norris) by great exertion raised funds sufficient to remove the roof and add an upper floor throughout the whole length of the building and so double the cubical capacity. (See memorial stone: "18 - Tu Rex Glorie Christe - 72.") The Girls' School was taken upstairs and the whole of the ground floor devoted to the Boys' School and class rooms, thus providing sufficient accommodation for the entirety of the Borough children. Actual average attendance: boys 90, girls 100. A further improvement was quite recently effected by the addition of a large playground (mainly through Mr. Ezra Ward's efforts),

thus obviating the necessity of the children congregating in the streets in play hours.

On the opposite side of the road there is an INFANTS' SCHOOL, which was erected by subscription in 1863. It is a red brick structure with tiled roof and is enclosed from the street by iron palisading, etc. The average daily attendance is 85 infants of both sexes.

The BOARD SCHOOLS, in Well Street, were erected in 1879 by the then School Board, the Borough Rates being charged with a £3,500 loan for the purpose. "School Boards" as such being abolished in 1906, the management of all three Schools was taken over by a Committee, and the names embodied under the term "Council Schools."

"KIRBY'S CORNER."

PERHAPS one of the greatest street improvements ever made in our old Borough was the cutting back of this Corner. It was effected through the generosity of the late Lord Addington, who supplied the necessary funds, and the late Alderman James Harrison, jun., who originated the idea and arranged the transaction. In 1862, about 15 square yards of freehold land was purchased for £100 from the Charity Trustees, who owned the old corner confectioner's shop (opposite the Town Hall), and by throwing the same into the roadway, the approach to the Market Square at this point was widened about 9 feet. A most dangerous and awkward corner was thus transformed into the present graceful sweep round towards the Station. On the old premises being pulled down, the stones used in the new walling were procured by John Munday (the builder), from a disused barn on the London Road, which had in its early glory been used as a "*Buckingham Theatre.*" Some of the decorations on the walls were still in evidence when the place was thus disposed of.

THE SHORT BRIDGE (WOOLPACK).

Photo by J. Varney & Co., Buckingham

"GAS HOUSE CORNER."

A SOMEWHAT smaller but equally valuable roadway improvement has recently been made at the Gas Works' frontage, where an awkward angle in the former street wall has been surrendered to the public roadway. The Corporation have taken down that part of the original bridge wall, and, by arrangement, built for the Company the new brick wall, thus throwing a strip nearly a yard wide into the roadway at the point where the street line bends very sharply, and insuring greater safety for motor and other traffic, particularly at lighting-up time.

BRIDGES OVER THE RIVER OUSE.

THE WOOLPACK BRIDGE.—This was originally a stone-built bridge, on low arches, of full cartway width (as shown in Speed's Map of Buckingham, 1610). It was called "The Sheriff's Bridge," and was the old Coach Road approach from London. When this bridge fell into disrepair, a new main road was cut through the "Jolly Yeoman" property; the London Road Bridge was built, and the "New Inn" and the row of adjoining houses were erected. A "Ford" was then made near the "Woolpack Inn," and a wooden trussed foot-bridge (resting on stone abutments) was built on part of the old site (as shown in Richard Chandler's view of Buckingham, published about 1850). This new wooden structure, however, in time became rotten, and was replaced by the present pretty iron lattice Foot-bridge, with new stone abutments in 1864 (see photo). To enable this improvement to be carried out, a £200 loan was borrowed from the Bucks & Oxon Bank. This was charged on the rates, and finally paid off in 1872. This bridge was in the first instance floored with boards covered with asphalt, but the damp gradually rotted the boards, and they were replaced by the present open steel strips about 1880.

THE LONDON ROAD BRIDGE, or the "Long Bridge," as this fine piece of stonework is called, was erected by the Marquis of Buckingham, a great benefactor to the town. A portion of the house now occupied by Mr. Smith, photographer (then Liddington's), was cut back to make an approach from the Market Square. It is said that the bridge was opened with much ceremony by the Marquis, and that a ludicrous incident happened, when a Thornborough man watching his opportunity passed through the *posse* of special constables, and before he could be caught, had crossed the bridge, and said *he* was the first man to go over it!

THE LORD'S BRIDGE (Prebend End, on the road to Gawcott).—This was originally a sort of wooden pile bridge, often under water in time of flood, with a boarded footway. The present brick double-arched bridge was erected about 1846, when the then existing course of the river was filled up by the new railway embankment, and the present channel was cut.

THE TINGEWICK ROAD BRIDGE.—This bridge took the place of a former one called the "Castle Bridge," and was built about 1851. For this the Borough borrowed a £300 loan from Messrs. Bartlett & Co., and the County defrayed the other half of the cost (see Borough balance sheets). The Borough debt was paid off in 1863. It is a very useful bridge, as, in addition to the road traffic to the villages out that way, it carries a lot of heavy van loads proceeding to and from the Goods Station, L. & N.-W. Railway. *(See next chapter for account of an accident on this Bridge).*

THE RAILWAY.

AT the time of Mr. Roundell's Lecture (1857) the branch of the L. & N.-W. RAILWAY from Verney Junction to Buckingham and on to Banbury had been opened about 7 years, but as it was not connected exactly with the

TINGEWICK ROAD BRIDGE ("CASTLE BRIDGE").

Photo by Varney & Co.

"Ancient" History of the Borough he does not allude in any way to it. By 9 & 10 Victoria, "Session 1846," an Act with the short title "The Buckinghamshire Railway (Buckingham and Brackley Junction) Act, 1846," was projected, arranging for the "London and Birmingham" Railway Company to "construct the line, to provide locomotive stock, and to be responsible for execution of powers of the Act, upon an Agreement (with a view to the economical and convenient working of the Railway), that they take a lease of it in perpetuity at such a rent as shall bring in 4 per cent. per annum upon the cost to the promoters." How it was settled to continue the line on to Banbury the Compiler has not yet been able to ascertain. The Station with the booking office was in the first instance placed on the Lenborough Road (or Mount Pleasant) side of the line, and only a small wooden waiting shed erected on this side where the present Station now stands. When, however, the late Duke of Buckingham, in 1853, created the "Chandos Road" across the fields up to the line, it was found very desirable to bring the booking office over to the same. The present Station was built, and the former approach from Lenborough Road closed. The Railway Company also, about 1861, made the connecting link between the new Chandos Road and the existing Gawcott Road, so that passengers from that side of the country could drive up the "Station Road" (as it is named) to the new booking office. This private road was found also to be a great public convenience for general traffic, and the Railway Company having in the year 1898 recognised this fact, declined to continue keeping the road in repair, though they had hitherto done so at their sole cost. A complete deadlock arose, as the road had never been taken over formally by the Corporation, and the surface became so uneven as to be dangerous. Mainly, however, by the personal exertions of Alderman J. T. Harrison with the railway authorities at Euston, acceptable terms were eventually arranged between

the Company and the Corporation. The road was repaired, drained, and a footpath added at the Company's cost, and "STATION ROAD" then became an ordinary borough "main" roadway. Quite recently the Railway Company has erected a row of workmen's cottages for the accommodation of their employees in what was formerly the old station approach yard.

In some reminiscences Mr. Thos. Baker has favoured the Compiler of these "Notes" with, he relates: That the first engine (christened "Trio") was brought by road (with horse team) from Wolverton, and lodged for one night in the Market Square *en route* to the Goods Station next morning; no end of people turned out to see the engine drawn down Castle Street and round the mill corner, great amusement being created by the load getting stuck when it reached the narrow part of the bridge, a considerable part of the parapet (on the Mill House side) being knocked down into the narrow water channel there, and the engine itself being within a few inches of following suit! He says further that, after the Bath Lane bridge had been up some little time, the arches collapsed with a crash which was heard all over the town. Hundreds of trucks laden with earth from the Benthill cutting had passed over these arches, and the fall occurred almost immediately after a train of them had passed by. He also says that where the present wooden trussed girder bridge crosses the line at Benthill, originally brick arches were built, which, after they had been up some considerable time, fell down wholesale, so the present wooden causeway was erected instead.

BUCKINGHAM STATION has been occasionally the scene of public functions, receptions by the Mayor and Corporation of Royalty at times; two other receptions being on the return of the Duke of Buckingham, after five years' Governorship of Madras, 10th February, 1881, and again on the occasion of his second marriage, 17th February, 1885, an address being presented to His Grace each time.

BRACKLEY ROAD.

31 George 3rd, c. 105.

AN

ACT

FOR

Amending and widening several pieces of Road and opening and making several pieces of New Road therein described, so as to make a convenient carriage road from Buckingham, through Brackley to join the Daventry Turnpike Road near Banbury.

Whereas the Road leading from the Town Hall in Buckingham to the present Turnpike Road in the Town of Brackley in the County of Northampton is greatly out of repair, and in some parts narrow and incommodious for Travellers and Carriages, and cannot be effectually mended by the ordinary course of Law, etc., etc.

May it therefore please your Majesty, etc.

This Act shall commence 4th July, 1791, and shall remain in force for 21 years.

Trustees appointed for making this Road, etc., from the *Market House* in Buckingham to Brackley, etc.

THE CONDENSED PEPTONIZED MILK AND COCOA FACTORY

IS one of the most flourishing local manufacturing works, having had two enlargements during the period of Capt. Hooker's management, whereas the previous existence of the building had been vicarious. Originally it was the site selected for a Hunting Establishment, under the denomination of the "*Buckingham Hotel Company*," but this idea was abandoned. It then became the "*Iron Foundry*,"

with the idea of manufacturing ploughs, harrows, rolls, &c., locally, instead of importing them from other districts. The Manager, however (a theorist), invented and manufactured instead steam road cars (see full description in "Sheehan's History of Bucks,") but though many of his ideas have since been brought into successful use, he lived before the invention of petrol. Hence his business came to grief, and the place was sold and dismantled. It was next fitted up as a Steam *Corn and Cake Mill* by Messrs. Beards Bros.; unfortunately, however, the acting Director, Mr. Robt. Beards, died, and the undertaking died too. The premises again came into the market, and were purchased by Mr. A. C. Rogers. Under his management, for some years the "*Bucks Direct Dairy Supply Co.*" consigned a large amount of farm produce to wholesale London establishments, such as Shoolbred & Co., and others, but eventually (as the Londoners claimed too great a share of the profits) this idea was abandoned, and the premises were sold in the year 1892 to the Condensed Peptonised Milk Co., Ltd., now trading under the title of "Thew, Hooker & Gilbey, Ltd." This Company receives a large quantity of milk from the beautiful pastures of the district, and from which a considerable variety of milk products are made.

About a century ago a local *Marble Factory* was established at this site, and the stones, of which Capt. Hooker's residence is built, were dug on the spot. Several of the tombs in the Old Churchyard were worked in marble from this Quarry, but it was a very hard and expensive material to deal with, and immediately the duty was taken off foreign marbles, it did not pay to work it, and the industry died out. It was grey or dove coloured, and was of very handsome appearance when worked and polished.

THE MARKET CROSS.

THE MARKET CROSS OF BUCKINGHAM.

THIS CROSS anciently stood in the HORSE FAIR, West Street, upon an open space of ground nearly opposite the mansion built by William and Mary Lambert, in which King Charles I. was entertained in June, 1644; now the property and residence of Herbert Bull, Esq. (See chapter on "Castle House.") "The steps and part of the Shaft of the Cross are stated to have remained in their original position till the end of the last century, and to have been then removed into the garden of a publichouse adjoining, called 'The Dun Cow,' and converted into a pedestal for a sun-dial. In 1844 the Cross was taken by the late Mr. Loveridge to Preston Bissett, four miles from Buckingham, and his son subsequently conveyed it to Lillingstone Lovell, near Whittlebury. Upon leaving Lillingstone to reside in a distant part of the country, Mr. Loveridge presented this Cross to his relative, the Rev. W. Perkins, of Twyford, by whose liberality this interesting fragment of antiquity has been restored to Buckingham. It was brought back in March, 1858; was then temporarily placed in the Vicarage garden, and has now, it is hoped, reached its final destination. As the piece of ground on which it originally stood has been long enclosed, and the exact site lost, the Cross is now placed in a conspicuous position in the Old Churchyard (some years since closed by Order in Council), and it marks the spot which was once the Western entrance to the former Church, demolished after the fall of the spire in the year 1776. The base of the Cross, in its present condition, measures two feet seven inches square, by ten inches high, and the shaft is two feet six inches high by ten inches in diameter. The corners are chamfered; and the mouldings, ornamented with the four-leaved flower pattern, indicate the fourteenth century, the period of Decorated architecture, as the date of its construction."

H. R.

(Henry Roundell, Vicar of Buckingham, 1862.)

THE OLD "MANOR HOUSE" OR "PREBENDAL HOUSE."

THIS is a quaint old residence adjoining the Vicarage in Church Street, rather a rambling structure, but prettily embosomed in trees on the garden side, and now and for many years past, owned and occupied by the Misses Baynes. It has one very interesting feature, of which we are enabled to give a photo, the "Twisted Chimney." This has been admired by many visitors to the town, and is almost unique. Occasionally (as the amount of business necessitates it) a "Customary Court" of the Copyhold Manor of "Prebend End and Gawcott" is held on these premises. In the former history of this dwelling it is recorded that Queen Elizabeth, on the occasion of passing through the Borough, dined here about August, 1568.

THE "MANOR OF BUCKINGHAM."

IN "Lyson's Bucks" it is recorded that the "MANOR OF BUCKINGHAM" (*i.e.*, Manorial rights), were leased in 1574 by the "Brocas" family to the Corporation for the term of 999 years at 40s. per annum. (This payment seems now to have become extinct.) This, however, has no connection with the Manor of "Prebend End and Gawcott" quoted above, and refers only to the "Borough," "Bourton Hold," &c.

THE TAN YARD AND WOOL YARD.

AT the date of the publication of Mr. Roundell's Lecture, these two thriving local industries were in full working, but the TAN YARD came to grief in 1861, and though subsequently re-started and conducted for a few years by Mr. Wm. Sowerby, it was, on his death, all dismantled, and the premises let out to a number of small occupiers, for stabling and warehouse room, as now.

TWISTED CHIMNEY, MANOR HOUSE.

NORMAN DOORWAY, OLD LATIN SCHOOL.

WOOL STAPLING is a very ancient local industry, and a special "Wool Hall" once stood on the Market Hill. This Hall fell into decay, however, and the site was utilised for another purpose (*see "Shambles"*). Of recent years the trade was conducted at "Bartlett's Wool Yard." These premises were for some generations used as a central depôt for the storage and sorting of wool, as many as 20 men and boys being employed at the work. The industry, however, decayed owing to "centralization," namely the direct transportation of the whole fleeces to Bradford, Yorks (the home of the trade), and the business was discontinued. The premises were then sold to "The Royal Bucks Hussars"; a splendid mess room was built, and the long ranges of warehouses converted partly into stabling and partly into large cooking kitchens with bedrooms over. For some ten years or so the officers occupied the premises during the annual Yeomanry training as headquarters, but now that more reality is put into the work, and the officers and men have to sleep "under canvas," the rooms are only used for public or military functions, and the stabling is converted into a miniature shooting range.

LACE MANUFACTURE.

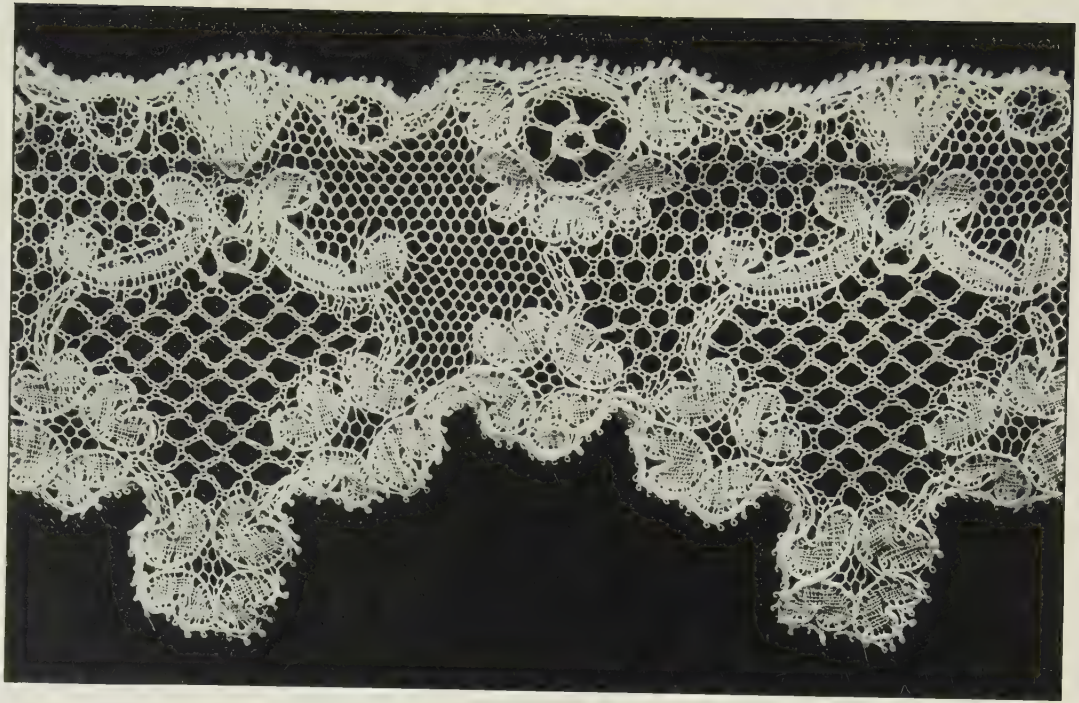
UNDOUBTEDLY one of the most interesting, and one of the oldest, local industries is the art of "Pillow Lace" making. Any trade so entirely dependent upon fashion must have its times both of success and failure, and this has been very much experienced by the women in the town, and in the villages round Buckingham. At the present time there is, however, a fair revival of custom, under the auspices of the "Buckingham Lace Industry" and other agencies. Some 30 years ago, Mr. Richard Viccars, a well-known lace dealer here, employed a worker to make a dress flounce which required 600 bobbins to negotiate. The lace dress worn by the late Duchess of Buckingham at her wedding,

and preserved at Stowe, is a thing which must be seen to be appreciated. The distinguishing feature of the "Buckingham Lace" is that the worker makes both the pattern and the net ground work simultaneously, thereby increasing the beauty and adding greatly to the strength of the article. It is made with thread of almost cobweb fineness, manufactured at Nottingham, and drawn at a slow, but regular, pace through a flame of gas to deprive it of all extraneous film. St. Andrew is the patron saint of the craft, and his anniversary is kept on 30th November. The two lovely engravings have been kindly supplied by Miss Burrowes, of Maids Moreton, Hon. Sec. of the "Buckingham Lace Industry," and she has kindly added the following information :—

"BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LACE."

The art of pillow lace making was in all probability introduced into England during the reign of Henry VI., about 1447, when the influx of Flemish from the Netherlands (fleeing from religious persecution), began to assume large proportions. Amongst these refugees were men of rank and of all sorts, including lace makers, some of the latter settling in Bucks—at Newport Pagnell and Olney in the first instance. The demand for Flemish lace (or Point d'Angleterre) became great in the 17th century, and the English largely monopolised the wearing of same, as the treasures still preserved in many of our ancestral houses abundantly testifies. In Charles II.'s time so much was this so that further Flemish lace makers were induced to come over and settle here, and the output still further increased; the trade also became more firmly established in Bucks. An Act of Parliament was passed prohibiting the introduction into England of lace made in other countries, and subsequently King William and Queen Mary went to the extravagance of spending over £4,000 per annum on lace. Lace making has become hereditary in this neighbourhood, seeming to come naturally to many a Bucks child. Of course there was a great decline in the making of real lace when machine making became an established fact, and it almost became extinct for awhile, but the late Duke of Buckingham made supreme efforts to arouse fresh interest in the art by organising an exquisite exhibition of lace products in a stall at "The Healtheries," Earl's Court, a few years ago. The chief reason the Buckingham Lace Industry has succeeded for many years now, is

SPECIMEN OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LACE.



SPECIMEN OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LACE.

the kind interest taken in the work, and the workers, by those living in the district. Nothing encourages a poor worker more than to know that her lace is appreciated by local patrons as a thing of beauty. Her Majesty the Queen, as well as other members of the Royal Family, have been purchasers, and there appears to be every prospect of a good time again coming for lace. Buckingham lace can hold its own anywhere, and rivals Brussels, and has only to be known to be appreciated and valued.

M. E. B. BURROWES.

In the time of tallow candles it was the custom for the lace worker to make a powerful lens by filling a globular bottle with water, fixing the same at just the right focus between the light and the pillow, and so gaining a brilliant ray on the pattern. Specimens of these "magnifiers" may be seen in the Museum at Aylesbury.

CASTLE HOUSE,

IN WEST STREET (NEAR THE OLD HORSE FAIR).

THIS interesting property, now belonging to, and occupied by, Herbert E. Bull, Esq., was purchased a year or two ago from the Executors of the late Henry Hearn, Esq.

On the occasion of the visit of the members of the Bucks Archæological Society to this part of the county in 1884, Mr. Henry Hearn entertained the company, and read the following history of Castle House:—

"Browne Willis records that in the reigns of Richard II. and Henry IV. this house, called 'Castle House,' was the seat of John Barton, senior, one of the Knights of the Shire. By his will made in 1431, it passed to John Barton, junior, his brother and to his sisters Margaret and Isabel. Afterwards it became the property of William Fowler, Richard Fowler, and Edward Fowler successively, the latter of whom entertained 'Catherine,' first Queen of Henry VIII. She received here

the news of the victory of Flodden Field, 1513. About the year 1592, one Theophilus Adams successfully claimed the estate, under a grant from the Crown, as having been given to superstitious uses: for a sum of £6 13s. 4d. per annum had been charged upon it by John Barton, senior, in favour of a priest, who was to celebrate daily mass at Barton's Chantry in the Church of Buckingham. The trial is reported at length in 'Coke's Reports.'

"In 1619 (time of James I.), William Lambard and Mary his wife were the owners of the property, and made considerable alterations in it. They erected part of the carved mantel over the fire-place dated 1617 (see photo), in what Browne Willis calls the 'Great Parlour,' and they affixed several stones about the premises bearing their initials and the date 1623. They also built a conduit house over St. Rumbold's well, which had then fallen into disrepute as a holy well, and brought the water in leaden pipes half-a-mile for the service of 'Castle House' and appurtenant premises. *(See chapter on St. Rumbold's Well.)*

"After William Lambard's death, his widow married Sir Edward Richardson, and in June, 1644, they received Charles I., who sojourned with them four days. A council of war was held during his Majesty's stay here. The details of this visit were fully described by the late Rev. Henry Roundell in an interesting lecture written and delivered by him during the time of his incumbency of the Vicarage of Buckingham.

"The house was greatly altered in the reign of Queen Anne (about the year 1708) by Mr. Matthias Roger, the then owner, all the front rooms being then re-built. About the year 1835, the property was purchased by Mr. Thos. Hearn from Mr. Philip Box, the representative of the Irish branch of that family. The house was then quadrangular, but the north side was so dilapidated, that upon the advice of Sir Gilbert Scott, it was pulled down and the house thrown open to the garden terraces on that side. Nothing further was done to the house until 1881, when, under the direction of Mr. E. Swinfen Harris as architect, the present occupiers restored the 'Great Parlour' by adding an oak beam to those already spanning the room and by throwing open the north window, which for a period unknown had been shut off by a partition from the other portion of the apartment. They have also put fresh glass into the two windows on the west side of the room."

At the conclusion of the paper, Canon Evetts on behalf of those present thanked Mr. Hearn for his cordial reception and his hospitality to the members of the Society.

OAK MANTEL PIECE, CASTLE HOUSE.

THE BELL FOUNDRY.

ALTHOUGH all vestige of a Bell Foundry having existed in this town had unfortunately disappeared, and all record appeared to have been locally forgotten when Mr. A. H. Cocks, M.A., wrote his book on the "Bells of Buckinghamshire," his research brought to light the fact that a family named *Atton* carried on a successful foundry for some years on a part of the premises in West Street now occupied by Mr. J. K. Tibbetts. The earliest record known was in 1552, when John Appowell was the founder. At his death, he left the business to his second son, "George," and it subsequently passed into the Atton family, and several church bells in the district have the name "Bartholomew Atton" as the founder cast on them, and subsequently there similarly appears Robert Atton and William Atton, up to 1653 A.D., after which the bell foundering here seems to have died out. Much fuller particulars are given in Mr. Cocks' publication before referred to.

THE BARRACKS.

THE building known as "The Barracks," but now no longer used for that purpose, is situate at the foot of the Stowe Road, being a commodious building of stone, erected in 1802 at the sole expense of the Marquis of Buckingham. It was first a store-house for the Royal Bucks Militia, and of late years for the Royal Bucks Yeomanry, containing a residence for the Adjutant, and numerous stables and store-rooms. The regiment consisted of 540 officers and men, commanded by the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, and at one time possessed two six-pounder guns, and subsequently a "gatling gun" equipment, the regiment being re-christened "The Royal Bucks Hussars." All such auxiliary troops are now, however, embodied in the "Territorial Forces," and the glory of the once celebrated Stowe Park Review, with

its attendant county gathering, is now only a pleasant dream of the past.

THE CEMETERY.

AN order having been issued about the year 1853 for closing the Old Churchyard as a burial ground (with the exception of unfilled family vaults), it became necessary to choose a site for a new Cemetery, and the Burial Board eventually decided to buy a plot of land for the purpose on the Brackley Road approach to the town consisting of three acres at a cost of £525. The land having been purchased, conveyed, mounded out, levelled, drained and prepared, at a total cost of £2,750, including a sexton's lodge, two chapels and a mortuary, the Cemetery was opened (and the Church portion consecrated) by the Rev. Samuel Wilberforce, D.D., Bishop of Oxford, on the 14th day of May, 1856. After the ceremony, a public luncheon was held under the presidency of Mr. James Harrison, jun., (Mayor), supported by the Lord Bishop; the Rev. H. Roundell, (Vicar), and the principal inhabitants of the town. It was assumed at the time that the 1879 "consecrated" and the 1125 " undenominational " grave spaces would serve for fifty years, but the consecrated portion became so full by the year 1898 that it was necessary to enlarge the same by the addition of another two acres at the top of the hill, purchased from the Baroness Kinloss for £400; the expense of enclosing, levelling, draining, &c., costing about a similar sum. This was consecrated and opened by Bishop Randall, of Reading, on Sunday, 13th March, 1898. The mortuary chapels are of red and white brick, and slated, and the sexton's house forms a lodge entrance. Singularly enough, the first person to be buried in this Cemetery was "*Mrs. Buckingham.*" At the opening ceremony above referred to, the Bishop, the Vicar and the Mayor each planted a tree near the entrance lodge, but the Bishop's tree only survived, and has now become a handsome ornament to the Cemetery.

WATER WORKS, AND SEWERAGE.

UNTIL the year 1893 the supply of drinking water in this Borough was from about five public, and a large number of private wells; but a few of these becoming contaminated through the introduction of cesspools, it was resolved by the Corporation to have a Local Government Enquiry held, and the result was the adoption of compulsory Sanitary Works, including both Water Supply and Drainage.

THE WATER WORKS were proceeded with first, at a cost of about £9,000, and under Baldwin Latham, Esq., C.E., London, a gravitation scheme to bring water from the hill ground at Akeley into a 60,000 gallon storage tank at Maids Moreton was carried out, the level of the same being high enough to supply nearly all the town.

BUCKINGHAM URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY.

THIS STONE WAS LAID ON AUGUST 15TH, 1893,
BY
WILLIAM JAMES GOUGH, ESQ., MAYOR.

Members of the Town Council:—

Aldermen:

G. Bennett. T. Ridgway.
E. H. Ridgway. J. W. Thorpe.

Councillors:

W. Bastick. C. Higgins.
J. Barnes. T. Holton.
J. Harper. J. Marshall.
F. Higgens. H. Thorpe.
J. T. Harrison. L. Varney.
G. Harrison.

Town Clerk: T. R. Hearn, Solicitor.

Engineer: Baldwin Latham, M.I.C.E.

Contractor: Henry Hill.

This answered for the first year or two, but it soon became evident that the "collecting area" was much too small, so a 7-inch bore-hole was sunk in the ground already belonging to the Council at the Maids Moreton Reservoir, and water was pumped by steam power into the tank, so making a constant service. This supply, however, in course of years being also found insufficient (as more "connections" were made to the

houses), a further bore-hole was sunk in the year 1908, and publicly opened on 25th September, the size being this time 12-inch, so that a night and day constant full pressure supply can now be maintained.

BUCKINGHAM
URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL.
Additional Works.
OFFICIALLY OPENED,
25TH SEPTEMBER, 1908.

F. ADCOCK, ESQ. ... Mayor.
T. R. HEARN, ESQ. ... Town Clerk.
J. SMITH, M.I.M.C.E. ... Engineer.
Contractors: A. C. POTTER & Co.

THE DRAINAGE WORKS were carried out by Messrs. Siddons & Freeman in 1896, as designed by, and under the superintendence of, H. Nicholls, Esq., C.E., Birmingham, at a cost of about £13,000 *(see list of Loans)*. The works comprise the usual house connections running into town mains, for which an artificial fall is created by a sump at the Pumping Station in North End, and the sewage is pumped by two powerful oil engines on to the 7 acre field, lying between the Bourton and Stony Stratford roads, with right of approach from each, which constitutes our Sewage Farm. This was purchased from the Baroness Kinloss for £1,178. Good crops of mangold wurtzel are grown and realize enough materially to recoup the cost of maintenance, etc. Much difficulty was experienced by the contractors in getting the mains in some of the streets properly laid (nearly 20 feet deep in places), there being sometimes too much rock, and sometimes too much water; and it was quite feared that the length from the Woolpack down to the Pumping Station would have to be relaid. But all troubles were eventually got over by the contractors' foreman, named Pickin, and the Clerk of the Works, named Manley, the result being summed up by a local wag: "Pickin swore, Manley prayed, and costs galore, the Council paid!" It remains only to be said that though the blessing of a Water Supply was

twice "christened," no tablet records the completion of the Sewerage Scheme.

The *annual payment* charged on the rates for interest and redemption of the above loans is about £1,500 per annum.

GAS, AND ELECTRIC LIGHT WORKS.

THE GAS WORKS, located at the London Road entrance to the town, were established about 1834. In 1859 it was decided to add a second gas holder (the larger one). Enormous difficulty was encountered in getting the water out of the foundations, but it was at last successfully accomplished by the contractor, Mr. W. H. Tibbetts. The combined capacity of the two gasometers was 30,000 cubic feet of gas; but on the works being bought and taken over by the "Bucks and Oxon District Gas Company," in the year 1907, it was decided to replace the original gasometer near the road by a telescoping one, and so increase the storage capacity. This enabled a great public road improvement to be made by altering the line of the boundary wall and throwing an extra piece of ground into the roadway at an awkward corner. *(See reference to this under heading "Gas House Corner.")*

THE ELECTRIC LIGHT WORKS were started at first in a moderate style in 1888 at the Town Mills. On 29th September, 1897, they were moved to the old "bark barn" at the former Tanyard, and at the expiration of that lease in Michaelmas 1904 (when the Company made a contract to light the streets), they moved into the present central premises in School Lane. For many years a very flourishing Brewery had existed there, but on its being amalgamated with a brewery at Aylesbury, the plant was dismantled and sold, and all the manufacturing done at Aylesbury, sufficient room for maturing ales only being now required here. Within living memory, a charming old

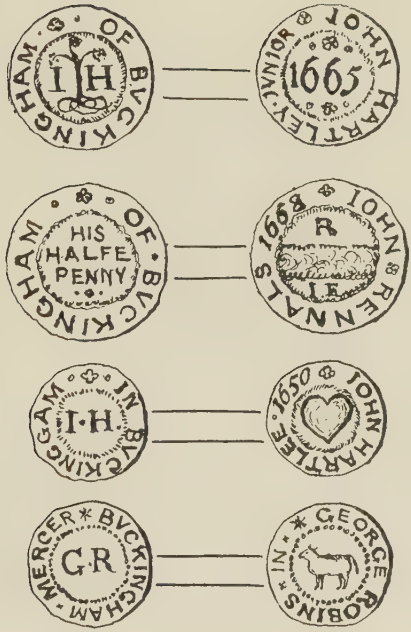
hostelry, known as the "Wagon and Horses," occupied the part which is now a dwelling house on this site, with low-roofed portico and side benches; but when the Brewery was enlarged this was all pulled down and sacrificed, and the license transferred to the corner premises, as it now exists under the new name of the "King's Arms."

BUCKINGHAM TOKENS.

ABOUT 250 years ago a practice arose in this country of allowing tradesmen to issue copper money, the coinage generally, however, having only a local circulation. They bore the tradesman's name, with the date and the name or arms of place of issue; but in 1672 this practice was stopped by the Government. We are glad to be able to give photo engravings of some of these "*tokens*," as they were called, from actual specimens in Mr. Arthur A. Walford's possession. So far as we have been able to gather, the total number issued in Buckingham was about a dozen, as follows:—

Wm. Atton, Draper in Buckingham		...	1663
John Kew, his halfpenny,	„	...	1668
John Hartlee,	„	...	1650
John Rennals,	„	...	1668
John Hartley, Jr.,	„	...	1665
George Robbins, Mercer,	„	...	no date.
Peter Reynolds	„	...	„
Elizabeth Crawley	„	...	1668

Mr. Ratcliff, of Olney, in this county, has made a study of this matter, and has a fine collection.



John Hartlee issued one also undated.

BUCKINGHAM 17TH CENTURY TRADE TOKENS.

THE BOROUGH SEAL.

Mr. John Guillison, of London, in 1724, says of the Swan as an emblem in heraldry:—

> "The Swan is a bird of great beauty, and strength also, and this is reported in honour of him: that he useth not his strength to prey upon or tyrannize over any other fowl, but only to be revenged on such as first offer him wrong, in which case (saith Aristotle) he often subdueth the Eagle."

DUKES OF BUCKINGHAM.

HUMPHREY STAFFORD was in 1445 created Duke of Buckingham by Henry VI. He was slain at the battle of Northampton in 1460, fighting on the King's side.

HENRY STAFFORD, grandson and successor to above was beheaded at Salisbury in 1483.

EDWARD STAFFORD, son of Duke Henry, was attainted for high treason, and beheaded on Tower Hill in 1521.

[After his death the title remained in abeyance for many years.]

GEORGE VILLIERS, a special favourite of King James I., was in 1623 created Duke of Buckingham, he having an estate and residence at Whaddon, Bucks. He was assassinated in 1628.

GEORGE VILLIERS, a son of the foregoing, succeeded to the title on the death of his father. He died in Yorkshire, at the house of a tenant, in April, 1687, after a dissolute life, and issueless, so that the title again became extinct.

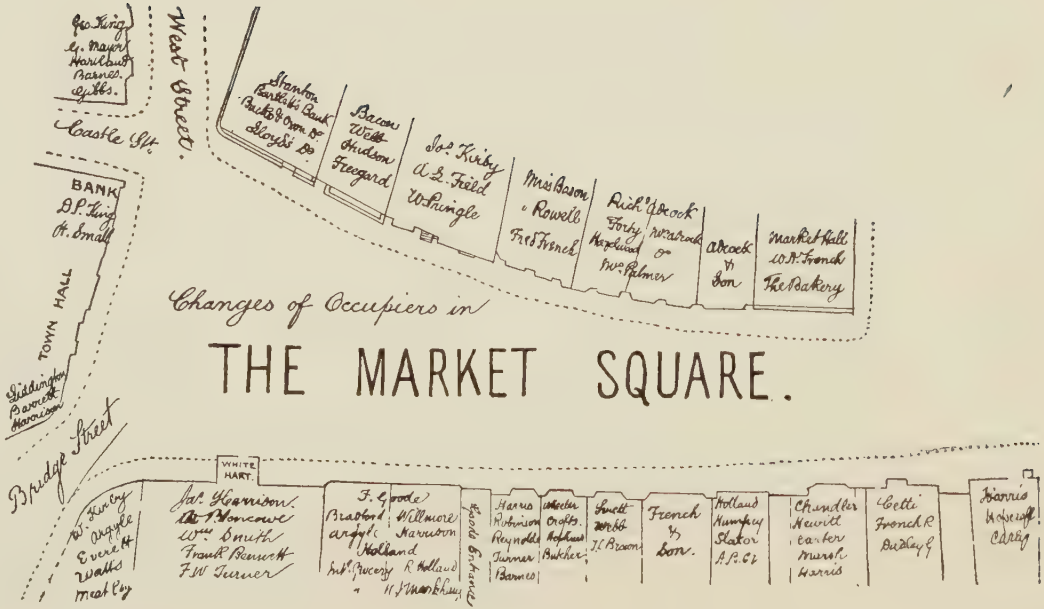
[This was the man of whom the Poet Alexander Pope wrote stinging satire.]

RICHARD GRENVILLE NUGENT CHANDOS TEMPLE, second Marquis of Buckingham, of Stowe House, was created Duke of Buckingham and Chandos in 1822, and died in 1839.

RICHARD PLANTAGENET TEMPLE NUGENT BRYDGES CHANDOS GRENVILLE, only son of above, succeeded to the title, and died in 1866.

RICHARD PLANTAGENET, etc., only son of foregoing, then succeeded to the title, and, dying without male issue, on 26th March, 1889, the title once more became extinct.

[This account is abridged from "*Worthies of Buckingham*," by Robt. Gibbs, published 1888.]


Geo King
E. Mayer
Hartlebury
Barnes.
Gibbs.
West Street.
Castle St.
BANK
D.F. King
Ch. Small
TOWN HALL
Fielding
Barrett
Harrison
Bridge Street
Stanton
Bank of Bath
Bath & Dom. Bk
Lloyds Bk
Bacon
Webb
Hudson
Freegard
Jos. Kirby
A.E. Field
W. Shingle
Miss Bason
Rowell
Fred Trench
Rich'd Adcock
Forty
Hopkins
Mrs. Palmer
Adcock
& Son
Market Hall
W.H. French
The Bakery
Changes of Occupiers in
THE MARKET SQUARE.
WHITE HART.
Jas. Harrison
Wm. Smith
Frank Bennett
F.W. Turner
F. Goode
Bradford
Argyle
Holland
Willmore
Harrison
R. Holland
H. Shankland
Goode & Grocery
Harris
Reynolds
Turner
Barnes
Crofts
Hopkins
Butcher
Powell
Webb
H. Brown
French
& Son.
Holland
Humphry
Slator
A.P.C.
Chandler
Newill
Carter
Marsh
Harris
Cetti
French R
Bartley
Harris
Wakeman
Craig

LOCAL STREET NOMENCLATURE.

IT has been suggested that the fact ought to be noted that we have in this town a "*Chewar*" and a "*Pightle.*" Neither of these terms are mentioned in "Chambers's" Dictionary (modern) nor in "Barclay's" Dictionary (about 100 years old). In "Webster's" Dictionary is given "Pightel or Pightle, a small enclosure," but Chewar is not mentioned even in that comprehensive volume.

Our "Pightle," as is well known, is the strip of land this side of the late Barracks property near the Stowe footway to Chackmore, and the "Chewar" is behind Lloyds Bank.

When the streets of the town were "named," and cast-iron tablets affixed to the walls to denominate the same, some little discussion took place as to the spelling of "Chewar," and the late Rev. T. Cockram wrote a letter on the subject as follows:—

THE ORIGIN OF THE WORD "CHEWAR."

(To the Editor of the "Buckingham Express.")

SIR,—It will be in the recollection of many of your readers that some years ago, when the Ordnance-Survey people were making the necessary measurements for the large Map of Buckingham, they were considerably exercised about the proper spelling of the word "*Chewar*," which they found applied by the inhabitants to the alley between Mr. C. A. Bennett's house and the Bucks & Oxon Bank. Several of the best informed and oldest residents were asked to give their opinions as to the correct spelling of this strange name, and the form which received the greatest amount of support was finally adopted, and in due course permanently recorded in iron, upon the walls!

It would appear that after all the popular verdict was an erroneous one. The most recently issued part of Murray's new English Dictionary, published at the Clarendon Press, includes the word *Chare* which is evidently identical with our old friend *Chewar*. It is curious that this spelling does not occur amongst the forms of the word collected by the Philological Society, which are *Chihera*, *Chere*, *Chare*, *Choyer* and *Chair*. Sir James Murray's definition of Chare is "a local name for a narrow alley or lane."

The earliest spelling which has been discovered is Cherhera in the 13th century, in the documents of William de Glanville, in the Turtee's "History of Durham." One of the extracts is from the "*London Gazette*" of 1707: "A large dwelling house in the Broad Chair in Newcastle-upon-Tyne" will be sold. In Tennant's "Tour of Scotland," 1790, occurs: "The lower Streets and Chares, or Alleys, are extremely narrow." It would be interesting to find out if the local pronunciation, which settled the spelling of the Buckingham alley, can be supported by any papers or documents in the possession of your readers.

Yours, etc.,

Royal Latin School, T. COCKRAM.
September 24th.

BOROUGH FINANCES.

IT may astonish some of our readers to know that at the present time the loans on the Borough of Buckingham amount to nearly £18,000. A *District Rate* of 1d. in the £1 realises about £50, and a *Borough Rate* about £57. It will be seen from annexed figures that the greater portion of the present rates go annually to meet the repayment of principal and interest on the several loans.

Since the above was written, attention having been called to it, Alderman Henry Thorpe said he had gone into the matter, and found that the total sum that had been borrowed by the Borough was £25,835, and they had paid back about £8,000, so that they owed about £18,000. The rateable value of the Borough was £12,000, and for borrowing purposes this was doubled, so that the borrowing powers of the Borough were £24,000, showing a limit at the present time of £6,000 for further mortgage.

Particulars of the several loans are given from the Municipal Balance Sheet, on next page.

It may be added that at the time the Borough Balance Sheets were first published (about 1840) the average annual amount of receipts and payments was about £500 only, but at that time the road repairing, etc., was administered by "Highway Surveyors," instead of coming into the Borough Accounts. No "School Board" Rate was charged on the Borough Fund; nor had Street Lighting, Water Supply, and Sewerage, come upon the Rates. How grateful ought the present generation to feel for all these additional blessings!

MUNICIPAL LOANS.

	Amount of Loan.	Number of Years for which Loan granted.	Rate of Interest per cent.	Date on which Instalments are due.	Amount of Principal and Interest due per annum.	Amount of Principal paid off to March 31st, 1908.	Amount of Principal paid off from March 31, 1908. to March 31, 1909.	Balance of Loan outstanding March 31, 1909.
Water Works.	£				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Advanced by Public Works Loan Office, 5th Dec., 1892	9,300	30	3½	June 5 Dec. 5	502 0 0	3,537 16 1	302 19 0	5,459 4 11
Sewerage Works.								
Advanced by Bolton Corporation, 2nd March, 1896	1,700 3,000 4,350	50 30 30	3⅛ 3⅛ 3⅛	Mar. 11 Mar. 11 Aug. 31	438 1 11	2,246 19 11	235 19 6	6,567 0 7
Advanced by Public Works Loan Office, 12th Dec., 1898	3,556	30	2¾	June 12 Dec. 12	174 0 0	1,175 4 9	110 2 7	2,270 12 8
Additional Water Works.								
Advanced by Public Works Loan Office, 5th May, 1902	1,530	23	3¼	May 5 Nov. 5	94 18 0	269 4 6	54 16 6	1,205 19 0
Ditto, 2nd March, 1908 ...	500	15	3½	May 5	43 4 0	...	40 10 0	1,209 10 0
Ditto, ditto ..	750	30	3½	Nov. 5	40 14 0	...		
Shambles Loan (Stables), Mar., 1903	250	30	3½	Mar. 25	12 12 2	41 13 8	8 6 8	199 19 8
Secondary Education.								
Advanced by Mr. Ward, Sept., 1906	500	30	3½	Mar. 25 Sept. 25	27 1 0	16 13 4	25 0 0	458 6 8
Grenville Lodge Odd Fellows, 9th Nov., 1907	400	10	4	Mar. 25 Sept. 29	48 18 6	...	50 1 6	349 18 6
Total, £	25,836				1,381 9 7	7,287 12 3	827 15 9	17,720 12 0

THE CHETWODE RHYNE-TOLL.

ALTHOUGH now given up, this ancient right was duly exercised till within about the last 20 years. Tradition says it was granted in 1244 to one *Ralph de Chetwode* for his slaying an enormous wild boar, after 4 hours' severe fighting, which was the terror of the inhabitants of that neighbourhood. It empowered the Lord of the Manor of Chetwode for ever to levy a tax on all cattle and swine passing through the prescribed district, including Chetwode, Barton, Tingewick, Preston, Hillesden, Cowley, Gawcott, Lenborough and Prebend End (Buckingham), during the week between 30th October and 7th November in every year. It was collected by men standing on every road approach to the district, and blowing a horn (made out of a shell) to proclaim the commencement of the toll, and then levying a small sum, said to be a farthing a claw, on any drove passing him, the amount realised at one time reaching about £20 per annum. On the opening of railways, however, throughout the country, the Welsh and other cattle droves decreased so much that the amount collected did not meet the expenses, and Sir Geo. Chetwode therefore called in the conch shells and dropped the toll.

About the year 1810, a large tumulus, or mound, near Tingewick Wood was levelled, and in it was found the skeleton of an enormous boar, the jawbone and some teeth of which were sent to Sir George Chetwode, Bart., to be preserved as a memorial. He had them suitably mounted and put in a glass case, and when an exhibition of curiosities, antique furniture and arms, &c., was organized at Tingewick, in 1887, he kindly loaned them to the committee for inspection by the public. The last collector of the toll was "Cockey Giles," as he was locally known, Superintendent at the Borough Gaol, and he assembled a number of boys on Church Hill, treated them to beer and gingerbread, and then put them on duty.

THE PRESENT CHURCH WITHOUT CHANCEL OR BUTTRESSES (1780).

BUCKINGHAM A CENTURY AGO

(AS DESCRIBED IN PENNANT AND MATON'S TOURS, 1808).

BUCKINGHAM, the County Town of Buckinghamshire, 16½ miles from Aylesbury and 57 from London by Uxbridge, is seated on the River Ouse, over which it has three stone bridges. It contains 531 houses and 2605 inhabitants, being 1,180 males and 1,425 females, of whom 313 only were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture. This includes the hamlets of Barston, Gawcott and Lenborough. It is supposed to derive its name from Boc—a beech, with which this country formerly much abounded. It is a very ancient town, and was fortified by Edward the Elder in the year 918, against the incursions of the Danes, with a rampart and turret. It had also a Castle on a hill which divides the town, but there are now no traces of it remaining. On this spot an elegant new Church has been built, with a spire (the tower of the old Church having fallen down in 1776, the spire of it, which was reckoned the tallest in England, having been blown down in 1698; but the burying-ground has continued at the old Churchyard, with a chapel only). The inside of the Church is fitted up in elegant style; the altar-piece, representing the transfiguration of Christ, is taken from the celebrated picture of Raphael. It was presented to the parish by the Marquis of Buckingham, whose uncle, the late Earl Temple, contributed very munificently to the building of the Church; his arms are carved over the door, and also his crest is erected as a fane on the new Town Hall. The town consists of one long street, the houses being meanly built, and many of them thatched. There is very little trade or manufacture here, except lace-making, in common with almost the whole county. In the reign of Edward III., one of the staples for wool was fixed here, and there still remains an old house called the Wool Hall. There are several corn and paper mills erected on the river near the town. It has sent two Members to Parliament ever since the reign of Edward VI. Queen Mary

incorporated it with a Bailiff and 12 Burgesses, who are the sole electors of its members. The whole of the County business was formerly transacted at Aylesbury, but, by a late Act of Parliament, the Summer Assizes are held at Buckingham. The Corporation, consisting of a High Bailiff, High Steward, Recorder, 12 Burgesses, Town Clerk, and Mace Bearer, hold a Court here every three weeks for the recovery of small debts. This town has given the title of Duke to several illustrious families. In this neighbourhood is Stowe, the celebrated seat of the Marquis of Buckingham. The town suffered greatly by fire in March, 1725, by which 138 families lost near £38,000. It is a great thoroughfare to Chester, Ireland, &c. Market day on Saturday; very well attended. The living is a Vicarage, value £22.

ANCIENT HAND-BELLS.

ALTHOUGH the chapters in this book treat principally of items actually connected with the Borough only, the following extract from Mr. Cocks' "Bells of the County" may be interesting, as treating of two ancient bells now domiciled in the Borough (see photo engraving):—

Description of two Ancient Hand-bells found near Buckingham.

"These bells, which exactly resemble very large cow-bells, are both in the possession of J. T. Harrison, Esq., of The Poplars, Buckingham, to whose kindness I am indebted for the opportunity of figuring and describing them. The larger specimen was found about 1870, in grubbing Barton Hartshorne Wood (about four miles from Buckingham), and is, like other examples of its class, not 'cast,' but 'fashioned' out of a sheet of metal, bent double (the bend forming the crown or apex of the bell), and rivetted down the sides, a little triangle of metal being left on each side at the bend, which overlaps the join in the sides for an inch or so. A loop handle is fixed in the crown. The sides of the bell are fastened together with five rivets on each side. The crown staple is a loop continuous with the handle outside. The

ANCIENT HAND-BELLS.

clapper has no ball, but gradually increases in thickness from its hooked upper end, which is closed round the crown staple, while the outer or free end is slightly rounded off. The smaller specimen was fortunately noticed (and secured) by Mr. Harrison in a heap of old iron, at a sale in September, 1893. It is so similar to the previous example (even to number and position of the rivets) that the one description does for both. There is little doubt, from what is known about other examples, that they were ecclesiastical bells. A very similar one was actually used in Scotland, at Struan, in Athole, as a church bell down to the year 1828. It seems likely, however, that these small bells were originally intended and used as 'sacring' bells rather than as tower bells."

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A VOLUNTEER RIFLE CORPS.

THE following letter was issued in 1859, when a scare of invasion by Napoleon III. agitated the country :—

Buckingham,
21st November, 1859.

Dear Sir,

I beg to inform you that the Mayor of Buckingham has appointed a public meeting to be held in the Town Hall, on Saturday next, the 26th instant, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, at which the formation of a Volunteer Rifle Force in this neighbourhood will be taken into consideration. It is hoped it may be convenient to you to be present on the occasion.

I remain, dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
HENRY HEARN.

At a meeting of the Committee of the Corps, held in Buckingham, on Friday, the 2nd of December, 1859—The Mayor of Buckingham in the chair—it was proposed by Sir Harry Verney, Bart., M.P., seconded by the Hon. Percy Barrington, and resolved :

"That all persons desirous of offering their services as Volunteers in the Buckingham Rifle Corps (each man to find his own uniform) be invited to send their names to the Secretary, Mr. Henry Hearn, by twelve o'clock, on Saturday, the 10th of December, to be submitted to the Committee."

And it was proposed by J. G. Hubbard, Esq., M.P., seconded by F. E. Bartlett, Esq., and resolved: That the following information be publicly notified for the guidance of Volunteers:—

Members joining the Corps may quit it by giving fourteen days' notice at any time, when not on actual service.

Members are exempt from Militia ballot, and from service in any other military levy.

The system of drill will be such as not to render the service unnecessarily irksome, or to make demands upon the time of the members that would interfere injuriously with their ordinary avocations.

The Government will provide a sufficient number of rifles for practice: and will, in case of actual service, arm the whole effective force.

The estimated cost of uniform and equipments does not exceed four pounds per man.

A general meeting of Volunteers will be called as soon as sixty names have been enrolled.

No person belonging to any other military service can be enrolled as effective members of the Corps: but such persons may be admitted on the honorary list.

The Committee consists of the following gentlemen:—

The Marquis of Chandos.	The Mayor of Buckingham.
Sir Harry Verney, Bart, M.P.	Major Dewes.
J. G. Hubbard, Esq., M.P.	H. Humphreys, Esq.
The Hon. Richard Cavendish.	Edward Parrott, Esq.
The Hon. P. S. Pierrepont.	P. Box, Esq.
The Hon. P. Barrington.	D. P. King, Esq.
Thomas Fitzgerald, Esq.	H. Hearn, Esq.
J. L. Stratton, Esq.	F. E. Bartlett, Esq.
E. F. Dayrell, Esq.	H. Small, Esq.

THE OATH.

27th February, 1860.

Before The Mayor, The Hon. Percy Barrington, and H. Hearn, Esq.

"*I do solemnly promise and swear true and faithful allegiance to Her Majesty the Queen. So help me God.*"

JAMES THOMAS HARRISON, *Buckingham.*

Though only four members of the original Corps are now alive, it has been kept going as the "No. 3 (Buckingham)

Company" (including Winslow), 1st Bucks V.R.C., from the time of inception till the recent disbandment and re-incorporation under the new "Territorial Force" scheme.

Volunteer privileges: By a reference to the "Army Regulations Memorandum, Geo. III., 1804," it will be seen that the wearing of the uniform is sufficient passport to the wearer to enter all garrisons and fortifications, also barracks in the United Kingdom, without any other sanction whatever.

BUCKINGHAM CHARITIES.

THESE have been fully described by Browne Willis, and in the Directories, &c., so that it is only neccessary here to refer persons anxious to fully investigate them to the House of Commons' Report on Bucks Charities, 1835; to Appendix No. V. in Mr. Roundell's Lecture, 1857; to the newspaper accounts of the "Enquiry" held in the Town Hall in April, 1887; and to the Report of Wm. Goode, Esq., the Charity Commissioner. Various schemes for alteration *re* the Royal Latin School, &c., have since been promulgated, printed copies of which may be obtained from the Charity Commissioners. The following is a short account of the principal Charities, and their original intended benefactions :—

Lady Penelope Osborne's Charity, of about £12 per annum, to provide gowns for 6 poor men.

Sir Simon Bennett's Charity, of about £17 per annum, to provide clothes for 10 men annually.

Higgens' Charity, of about £73 per annum, to relieve 5 poor sole unmarried people.

Lady Bagot's Charity, of about £11 per annum, to provide gowns for 5 poor widows.

Agard and Dayrell's Charity, of about £83 per annum, to relieve 12 of the poorest inhabitants.

Grove's Charity, £2 10s., to be laid out in bread for the poor.

Adkins' Charity, of about £33 per annum, for 4 poor widows in Prebend End.

West's Charity, £17 6s. 4d., for the poor of Gawcott to buy bacon.

Harrison's Charity, £8 5s. per annum, for 3 paralytics.

Box's Charity, £17 6s. per annum, for the salary of the Church Organist.

Newton's Charity, £26 per annum, to clothe and educate 25 boys.

Hart's Charity, £9 per annum,
Sir Richard Temple's Charity, £13 per annum, } for apprenticing poor lads.

Rogers' Charity, £30 per annum, for the relief of decayed tradesmen.

Also Barton's Hospital, Christ's Hospital, and the Royal Latin School, particulars of which are given in the chapters relating thereto.

BUCKINGHAM COACH SERVICE.

THE following copy of a placard in the possession of Messrs. Cheney, of Banbury, is interesting :—

"The Banbury, Buckingham and Winslow machine begins going for the winter season on Saturday, 20th November, 1779.

"Sets out from the 'Red Lion' Inn, in Banbury, every Saturday, Tuesday and Thursday, at noon, to Buckingham; and returns from there every Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday morning. Likewise a coach from the 'Cobham Arms,' Buckingham, every Sunday, Wednesday and Friday morning at five o'clock to London; and return from there every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday morning to Buckingham, at the same hour. The fare as usual. Inside passengers to be allowed 14lb. for luggage; all above to pay one penny per pound. Performed by John Lomax & Co. Stops at the 'Plough' at Adderbury, 'Red Lion' at Aynho, 'Barley Mow' on Bayard's Green, 'White Hart' at Tingewick, 'Lord Cobham's Arms' at Buckingham, and 'The Three Pigeons' at Winslow, to take up and set down passengers and parcels. Stops going in and coming out of London at the 'Green Man and Still,' the corner of Swallow Street, Oxford Road."

From Arber's "English Garner," vol. I. (1637), it appears :— "The carriers of Buckingham do lodge at the King's Head, in the Old Change (London); they come on Wednesdays and Thursdays."

OX-ROASTING.

THOUGH perhaps differences of opinion exist as to the glory of having an ox roasted whole in the streets, such celebrations have been held in our ancient borough. A full account of the coming of age of the late Marquis of Chandos, which was thus publicly noted, is preserved in copies of the "Illustrated London News" of that date (1844). More recently also, as the result of some friendly chaff at Market one evening, a fine ox and a fat sheep were given by two farmers, to be roasted whole in North End Square, on "Statute Fair" day, the cash received for sale of the meat to be given to the "Nursing Home." A crowd of some 2,000 persons attended, and the Institution benefitted to the extent of £31 7s. 6d. the first year (1906), and being so successful it was repeated the next year, resulting in a cash balance for the "Home" of £26 2s. 11d., but the risk and trouble was so great the experiment then dropped.

THE FLOODS.

PERHAPS no account of Buckingham can be considered complete which does not mention the liability to flooding after very heavy rains and snow storms; and Messrs. Edmunds & Poynter, of Ford Street, are always ready to shew the curious in this matter—the doorpost upon which they keep a record of the height attained upon various occasions, and of which we are permitted to give the following copy :—

Date.		Depth ft.	in.
Oct. 10th, 1875	...	3	7
April 28th, 1908	...	3	3
Oct. 24th, 1882	...	3	2
Nov. 14th, 1875	...	2	8
Nov. 14th, 1894	...	2	1
Feb. 5th, 1897	...	1	5
Nov. 13th, 1894	...		6

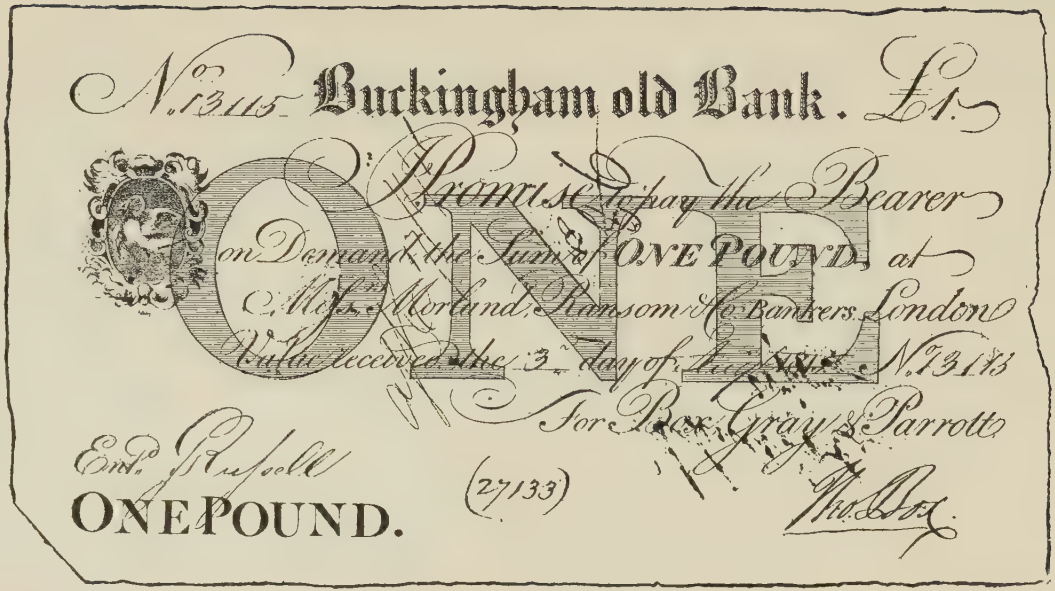
Also going considerably further back in date, the following extract from "The Gentleman's Magazine" for October 1797, may be interesting:—

"At Buckingham during a heavy fall of rain on 24th and 25th inst., the water rose several feet higher than has ever been remembered; the roads were impassable for carriages during the whole day, and a man was drowned through the rapidity of the stream, in attempting to swim across a narrow street called Well Street, in the sight of 40 or 50 people, who were quite unable to assist him."

The Ouse affords good pike fishing; perch, roach, and dace are also to be caught, and in flood-time prime quality eels.

BUCKINGHAM "NOTE" ISSUE.

WHEN the former "Bucks and Oxon Union Bank" was, in 1902, taken over by "Lloyds" (as now), one of the "privileges" which then ceased was the local issue of about £80,000 worth of notes of the face value of £5 and £10 each, under the original style of "Bartlett, Parrott & Co." All such private issues are now being gradually discontinued in favour of the Bank of England as opportunity occurs. It will probably be a surprise to most readers, however, to know that £1 notes were once issued in Buckingham, as will be seen from the accompanying engraving. Irish and Scotch £1 notes are still in circulation.


No. 13115
Buckingham old Bank.
£1.
ONE
PROMISE to pay the Bearer
on Demand the Sum of ONE POUND at
Messrs. Morland, Ransom & Co. Bankers London
Value received the 3d day of Aug. 1814. No. 73183
For Bax, Gray & Parrott
Thos. Bax
Entd. J. Russell
(27133)
ONE POUND.

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM THE BOROUGH BALANCE SHEET.

SUNDRY items of interest extracted from the Borough Balance Sheet since the year 1839 are here given. The first annual Balance Sheet was issued in 1836.

		£	s.	d.
1839.	Amount of Quit Rents received	3	16	0
	Paid Wilson & Booth preparing tender for the "New Gaol"	5	0	0
	Paid Expenses of Lenborough, Gawcott and Bourton appealing against the Borough Rate	50	0	0
1848.	D. P. King, Esq., and Major Dewes, paid £5 each fine for not serving as Council men.			
1850.	Lighting Inspector's account appears for first time.			
1854.	Paid John Dockray for services rendered in re-building Tingewick Road Bridge	10	10	0
1855.	Paid Repairs to Town Hall	85	17	7
	Quit Rents received	11	10	10
1858.	Paid F. Duke for medical attendance at Gaol ...		10	6
	Paid W. Shipley for trees and planting on Church Hill	4	16	0
1860.	Received for herbage on Church Hill		10	0
1862.	J. G. Hubbard, Esq., M.P., *re* cost of "Kirby's Corner"	100	0	0
1864.	W. Giles for sitters up with W. J. Stevens	10	2	6
1865.	Fines received for chimneys on fire	1	15	0
	T. Holton transferring boundary wall to new line on Church Hill	40	0	0
1869.	Received for brushwood off trees on Church Hill (less lopping expenses)		4	6
1872.	Expense of cleaning out Mill Head	45	15	2
1875.	Expense of Bourton Foot Bridge	19	18	0
	Received of H. Small, Esq., for corner on Church Hill to add to his yard	20	0	0
1877.	Received of Hearn & Co., for Mill Bank	30	0	0
	Paid Thos. Atkins for Mill Bank iron protecting fence	87	10	0
1881.	Paid Hussey & Glenister for Town Hall chairs ...	54	15	8
	Paid George Tompkins for Town Hall tabling ...	17	2	0
1884.	Borough Properties' Sale expenses:—			
	Hearn & Co.	27	0	6
	R. J. Russell	20	17	6
1886.	Thorpe, expense of cleaning out Canal Basin ...	32	16	0
1887—8.	By sale of dead horse		13	0
	J. K. Tibbetts, repairs at Thornborough Bridge (moiety)	90	0	0
	Jubilee Gift to Reading Room for re-building wall	10	0	0
	New water cart	41	7	0
1890—1.	By sale of the Borough Standard Measures, R. J. Russell	17	0	0
	Expenses of providing Gawcott with a public water supply	125	3	6
	E. Bullock, Esq., Recorder, pension on abolition of Quarter Sessions	30	0	0
1892—3.	Bank of England for first Instalment and Interest on £9,000 loan	189	11	8

		£	s.	d.
1893—4.	By sale of old horse	5	0	0
	A. H. Busby for new horse	48	10	0
	Charles Tailby, lopping Church Hill trees ...	3	2	0
	Humphreys & Co., Knightsbridge, for the Isolation Hospital	140	0	0
	Tradesmen's accounts for furnishing same ...	43	13	1
	Cleaning out Canal Head	105	10	7
1894—5.	T. Boyse, *last* bond in extinguishing Town Hall mortgage	50	0	0
	W. H. French, new sanitary cart	22	10	0
1895—6.	Paid H. Small, Esq. (Charity Trustees), purchase of Pumping Station	500	0	0
	Paid H. Small, Esq. (Baroness Kinloss), purchase of Sewage Farm	1178	12	2
1896—7.	J. K. Tibbetts, Diamond Jubilee illuminations ...	10	0	0
	D. Lines, mace bearer's uniform	7	10	0
	A. H. Busby for horse	38	0	0
1897—8.	Received H. Clarke for shooting over Sewage Farm	1	10	0
	Purchase of horse (Highways Account)	58	0	0
	H. Harris, for new foot bridge at Bourton ...	13	1	6
1898—9.	A. C. Rogers, Esq., two thirds cost of laying on water to Bath Lane	8	1	9
	L. & N.-W. Ry. for cost of making "Station Road"	150	0	0
1899—1900.	Hadland, painting Church Hill fence ...	11	0	0
	Geo. Wigley, for sale of horse by auction at Winslow	19	15	0
1900—1.	Purchase of 2 horses	50	0	0
	Charity Trustees for rent of part of the Shambles to *end* of lease, 21/12/00	11	0	0
1901—2.	Exors. late George De'Ath, Esq., share of salary as Medical Officer of Health	5	10	8
1902—3.	Exors. late Ed. Bond, Commission on sale of the Shambles	3	3	0
	T. W. Hurst, purchase of fly for hospital cases	12	0	0
	Purchase of new horse	52	0	0
1903—4.	By sale of old fire engine	6	17	0
	By sale of Shambles (see next item)	252	3	9
	A. J. Cox, for erection of new cart horse stables at Pumping Station	252	3	9
1904—5.	Expenditure during this year in connection with infectious cases at hospital	400	0	0
1905—6.	Rev. W. F. Norris, half-year pension to 16th June (the *last* pension paid)		16	0
	Sale of mangolds off Sewage Farm this season ...	140	0	0
1906—7.	H. Tew, repairing and painting Town Hall windows	45	13	11
1907—8.	Grenville Lodge of Odd Fellows, loan for overhauling Town Hall	400	0	0
	R. Hirons, for roan horse (bad doer!)	25	0	0
	Guardians in re-payment of cost of isolation of a tramp	42	3	11

NOTES FROM MY DIARY.

1853—April 27. A new line of underground telegraph wires (7 wires in triangular wooden trough) laid through the town (and afterwards taken up again).
1861—July 27. The Duke of Buckingham died (in London).
1862—June 28. The Dowager Duchess of Buckingham died.
1864—Aug. 5. A Buckingham man named Stevens hung at Aylesbury for the murder of a young girl named Annie Leeson.
1865—June 23. Sale at the Iron Foundry, Chandos Road.
1869—Aug. 20. Corner stone of the new London & County Bank laid.
1870—Feb. 5. Telegraph Office opened at Buckingham.
Oct. 24. Magnificent Auroraborealis.
Nov. 14. Performance by the Buckingham Amateur Dramatic Society.
Dec. 26. Skating on Canal; safe all the way to Stony Stratford.
1871—Mar. 8. The central White Hart gateway entrance closed, and new one opened at bottom of yard.
Dec. 20. The first School Board Election.
1872—Mar. 26. Billiard tournament in Town Hall to introduce the new White Hart table.
Nov. 1. The first election by ballot for members of the Corporation.
Nov. 1. The ground dug over in Old Cow Fair and trees planted by Egerton Hubbard, Esq.
1874—Feb. 28. Caroline, Duchess of Buckingham and Chandos, died.
July 31. Fire at Mr. Geo. Harrison's new premises in Castle Street.
1875—Feb. 6. Egerton Hubbard, Esq., thrown from his horse, and found on road side near Benthill, stunned, and was carried to White Hart.
June 9. The Station Mill (Beard's) sold to A. C. Rogers, Esq., for £1,020.
Oct. 10. (Sunday). Big flood; 12 ewes drowned in our Woolpack meadow.
1876—Feb. 18. Successful "Spelling Bee" in aid of "Literary and Scientific Society" funds.
June 15. Bicycle Club dinner (54-inch wheels).
July 26. Clown Cricketers v. Buckingham Cricket Club Match; 4,000 people present.
Nov. 9. Geo. Nelson, Esq. (Town Clerk), died.
1877—Nov. 23. Huge meteor burst in the sky, about 8 p.m.
Dec. 13. School Board Election: Cheesman and Small each polled 450 votes for third place, so drew lots, and Cheesman elected.
1878—Nov. 1. Town Council Election: J. T. Harrison's first entry there.
1879—Jan. 7. The Superintendent of the Fire Brigade had a chimney on fire.
Feb. 26. "Weston," the "Backwards" Pedestrian, passed through Buckingham.
April 7. E. Hubbard, Esq., had shrubs planted on the bank behind Railway Station.
Sept. 3. Special meeting of the Town Council to name the streets ready for the approaching Ordnance Survey of the Borough.
Sept. 26. Rev. F. G. Kiddle instituted Vicar, *vice* Mr. Norris resigned.
1880—Mar. 31. Borough Election: Sir Harry Verney, Bt., elected by a majority of 8.
April 5. Town Council Meetings at 6 o'clock given up—to revert to 11 a.m.

1880—June 3. Egerton Hubbard, Esq., married to Miss Portal.
1881—Jan. 19. No train service. No letters delivered. Stopped by snow drift for about 24 hours.
Feb. 10. Official reception of Duke of Buckingham on his return from Madras.
Mar. 2. New Victoria-stone paving over London Road Bridge commenced laying.
Mar. 13. Nicholas, Emperor of Russia, assassinated.
April 19. Earl Beaconsfield (as Benjamin Disraeli, former Member for Bucks) died.
Dec. 13. Town Hall Swan replaced after re-gilding.
1882—Feb. 1. Town Hall new illuminated clock face lighted first time.
Nov. 25. Reception at Station of the "Indian Contingent" *en route* to Stowe.
1883—Jan. 30. Public dinner to celebrate Sir H. Verney's Jubilee in Parliament.
June 1. Well at Mr. Dover's, Moreton Road, colted in, burying three men (two saved).
June 22. H.R.H. The Duke of Cambridge was Yeomanry Reviewing Officer at Stowe.
Aug. 1. Parcel Post inaugurated at Buckingham.
1884—Jan. 2. Meet of the Grafton Hounds in the Market Square for the first time.
Feb. 29. Varney (prisoner) escaped from Borough Gaol.
Mar. 27. Auction Sale of "Market Hall" by Mr. Russell, to A. C. Rogers, Esq., at £640.
July 26. Men fixing new lightning conductor on Church Spire.
Aug. 4. The Corporation attended at Claydon House to receive Chain of Office.
Aug. 25. Ordered new Fire Engine Station to be made at the Old Gaol.
1885—Sept. 12. The new "Bakery" opened on site of former Market Hall. Duke of Buckingham's Wedding, and official reception at Railway Station.
1886—Feb. 19. H. Small, Esq., appointed Coroner in place of late Mr. Robt. De'Ath.
July 14. North Bucks Election: Egerton Hubbard, Esq., elected; majority over Captain Verney, 71.
July 27. The Flower Show Fireworks concluded with a real fire at Bourton Mill.
1887—Mar. 5. New Nursing Home presented to the Borough by the Right Hon. J. G. Hubbard, M.P.
April 27. Charity Commission Public Enquiry in Town Hall from 11 o'clock till 6.30 p.m. Copies of Mr. Goode's Report may be obtained at the offices in London.
June 18. Corporation met County Surveyor at Thornborough Bridge and ordered parapets to be re-built at joint cost. (Carried out by Mr. J. K. Tibbetts.)
Dec. 14. New Post Office opened on what was once "The Cobham Arms Inn," and afterwards Mr. Bradford's shop.
1888—Jan. 23. The "Literary and Scientific" Institute wound up and books transferred to new "Reading Room."
Feb. 6. Mr. R. W. Munday resigned appointment as Borough Surveyor.
Feb. 12. Re-opening of the Church Organ after an outlay of £300 in new stops, etc.
Mar. 10. Silver Wedding of H.R.H. The Prince of Wales.

1888—Michs. Epidemic of rick fires (incendiary) in the Borough.
Oct. 15. At a Special Council Meeting, settled to adopt Sewage and Water schemes.
Dec. 14. T. R. Hearn, Esq., appointed Town Clerk, *vice* H. Hearn, Esq., resigned.
1889—Feb. 19. Public Enquiry held by Col. Ducat *re* Drainage and Water Supply Loan.
Mar. 26. Duke of Buckingham and Chandos died at Stowe.
April 1. Borough Police Force hereafter to be controlled by the County Authority.
June 22. Bill passed for constructing a Railway from Buckingham to Towcester (never carried out !)
Aug. 3. Special Council Meeting, and contract signed with Mr. Latham, as engineer of the new Water Works and Sewerage.
Aug. 28. The first Lord Addington died.
Oct. 11. North Bucks Election : Capt. Verney returned by 208 majority over Evelyn Hubbard, Esq.
1890—Jan. 9. The Town Clerk's salary raised from £60 to £75 per annum.
April 14. Fortunately, the Council decided to let, instead of demolish, the Old Gaol.
May 11. Bishop of Reading to dedicate the new East Window in the Church.
Nov. 22. The Recorder's (E. Bullock) salary cut down from £50 to £30, retiring pension, on the Quarter Sessions being abolished.
Dec. 9. Exhibition in Town Hall of Lace, Antiques, Curios, etc.
1891—Jan. 10. Coal distribution amongst the poor in consequence of severe weather.
April 5. Census Day.
May 28. Election Day, North Bucks : Leon, 5013 ; Hubbard, 4632.
June 1. Drainage Loan, £11,000 allowed by Local Government Board.
Dec. 18. Iron Wall Letter Box fixed in Mr. John Phillips' wall, Chandos Road.
1892—Jan. 14. Duke of Clarence (heir presumptive to the Throne) died.
Jan. 21. As Treasurer, distributed over £800 amongst members of the Buckingham Friendly Society.
Oct. 25. Princess of Wales drove through "incognito" to Stowe House to luncheon.
Dec. 5. Sealed contract for £9,600 Loan on Waterworks Account.
1893—Mar. 31. Destructive fire at Chackmore. Many families rendered homeless.
May 15. J. T. Harrison elected Alderman in place of Mr. Thomas Ridgway, deceased.
July 6. George, Prince of Wales, married.
Aug. 15. Turning on the new Borough Water Supply at Moreton Reservoir.
1894—Feb. 5. W. J. Gough elected Alderman in place of Mr. Geo. Bennett, deceased.
Feb. 12. Sir H. Verney, Bart, died at Claydon House.
Feb. 21. Royal Oak Inn at Gawcott burned down.
June 12. Bernadine Roman Catholic College Foundation Stone laid.
1895—Jan. 29. Arbitration with Mr. Baldwin Latham *re* Water Schemes settled.
April 22. Canal Co. *v.* The Corporation ; action *re* public drainage entering the Canal.

1895—June 10. Agreed to buy a Pumping Station and Sewage Farm.
July 19. North Bucks Election : W. W. Carlile, Esq., elected by 436 majority.
1896—Mar. 2. Signed Contract with Siddons & Co. for the new Sewerage Works.
July New Main Drain laid across (underneath) Woolpack Ford.
Aug. 10. C. Parsons elected Town Crier and Mace Bearer, *vice* Charles Poynter, deceased.
1897—Jan. 13. Grafton Hounds met in Market Square.
Feb. 16. Arbitration case *re* cracking of sewage tank walls.
Mar. 29. Messrs. G. Tombs & Sons commenced pulling down "Christ's Hospital."
Mar. 30. Mr. A. A. Walford, gave a Lecture on "Historic Buckingham."
June 22. Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee. Public dinner in Town Hall ; about 400 sat down, and sports in the evening.
July 12. Mr. Nicholls (engineer) came and started the Sewage Works going.
1898—May 5. Public Enquiry *re* further loan.
May 19. The Mayor and Corporation presented address to H.R.H. The Prince of Wales (Albert Edward), who had come down to review the Yeomanry.
May 25. Death of W. H. French, Esq., J.P., one of the oldest natives of the Borough.
Sept. 10. Empress of Austria assassinated. (She hunted at one time with the Grafton Hounds.)
1899—Jan. 2. Agreement signed and sealed *re* taking over the "Station Road"
Jan. 17. Wool Fair day ; average price 17s. 3d. per tod only !
Nov. 22. Survey proceeding *re* projected Railway, Verney Junction to Towcester.
1900—Jan. 19. Send-off dinner to Troops going to South Africa.
Mar. 1. News of relief of Ladysmith, South Africa. Church bells rung.
May 4. Produced map of the Wool Hall and surroundings (1814), to settle Shambles' boundary.
May 18. News of relief of Mafeking, South Africa
July 26. About 100 Buckingham "Mothers" went to Brightwell Vicarage to call on Rev. F. G. and Miss Kiddle.
1901—Jan. 22. Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen died at Osborne, at 6.30 p.m.
Feb. 1. Market held on Friday ; all business suspended on Saturday for the Queen's funeral.
Feb. 14. Grand reception by the Mayor (C. A. Bennett, Esq.) ; the King's health duly toasted, this day being the Opening of his first Parliament.
Mar. 31. Census Day.
May 3. The Town Clerk served with a Writ by Isler & Co., *re* Maids Moreton boring scheme.
July 6. George H. De'Ath, Esq., Medical Officer of Health, died.
July 25. Complimentary reception and presentation of sword to Lord Chesham on his return from South Africa.
1902—Jan. 31. Meeting at White Hart *re* proposed absorption of Bucks & Oxon Bank into "Lloyds."
June 1. Peace proclaimed in South Africa ; Boers surrendered on our terms.

1902—July 15. Coming of age rejoicings at Claydon House; Harry Verney, Esq., attained his majority.
Aug. 1. Tombs & Sons commenced laying new concreted floor at Latin School (Chantry Chapel).
Aug. 9. King Edward's Coronation day being on a Saturday, the market was held on Friday the 8th instead.
1903—Mar. 18. Tombs & Sons started putting in an entirely new system of drainage at Barton's Hospital.
Nov. 9. A. C. Rogers, Esq., re-elected Mayor. (Third year.)
Dec. 24. (Thursday). Arranged for this to be "Market Day" instead of Saturday (Bank Holiday).
1904—Jan. 19. Fire at Miss Ada Bartlett's, West Street.
Jan. 25. Special Meeting to overhaul the contents of the Borough Chest.
Oct. 12. Measured out exactly 2 acres from field on Chandos Road as site for new Latin School.
1905—June 15. Guardians challenged the Town Council to a game at cricket. The Town Council won.
July 4. Drove to Aylesbury to County Archæological Exhibition with a number of items from around here.
Nov. 9. T. Hawes, Esq., re-elected Mayor; entertained the Corporation to a recherché luncheon.
Dec. 9. Fat Cattle Show; the earliest date upon which ours can come, Saturday before London Christmas Market.
1906—Jan. 26. Septennial distribution of the funds of Buckingham Friendly Society at The Woolpack Inn.
Jan. 30. The trees round Church Hill trimmed up under direction of the Borough Surveyor.
1907—Jan. 25. Plenty of good skating about, but on 27th sudden thaw, and burst pipes everywhere.
Feb. 23. Presentation of bicycle, rose-bowl, etc., to Mr. R. E. Bennett, Hon. Secretary of Agricultural Show.
July 11. Dedication of memorial window in chancel to memory of Rev. W. Foxley Norris, Vicar.
Sept. 27. Public meeting *re* extra Water Works loan.
Oct. 12. Public ox-roasting in North End Square.
1908—Jan. 13. Dr. Larking read a paper on "Buckingham as it was, is, and should be"!
Feb. 1. Assassination of the King of Portugal and his son.
Feb. 17. At a special meeting the Town Council resolved to offer £1,000 for the Wharf.—Declined.
April 26. Deep snowstorm, and on 28th a flood within four inches of the 1875 high water mark.
Sept. 30. The Corporation attended at Stowe House and presented address to Master of Kinloss on his coming of age.
Oct. 9. Formation of new Fire Brigade.
Nov. 1. At Council Election, Messrs. G. Tailby and W. Powell tied for fourth place, so drew lots: Mr. Tailby won.
1909—Jan. 25. Dedication of window in sanctuary to the memory of the late Rev. F. G. Kiddle, Vicar.
May 4. Empire Day—Procession of children in Market Square.
Aug. 10. Marriage of Lord Addington's daughter. The town subscribed and sent her a diamond pendant.
Aug. 18. 96 wires in an underground cable in lead tubing laid through the town this week.
Nov. 14. Mayor's annual Church Parade—in a snowstorm.

AVENUES NEAR THE TOWN.

AS stated in the short description given in Mr. Walford's issue of views of Buckingham and Stowe, "No visit to picturesque Buckingham would be complete without a saunter through STOWE AVENUE, with its 1½ miles of stately elm and beech trees bordering the wide greensward, on the lordly drive to Stowe House. The side walk, with boughs of lofty elms on either side interlacing each other overhead, making it cool and shady on the hottest days, runs the length of the Avenue up to the 'Corinthian Arch,' where the public drive ends."

MAIDS MORETON AVENUE, too, at the north-east end of the town (road to Stony Stratford) is well worth a visit. Although originally constructed about a century ago as a private approach only to a residence at the Maids Moreton terminus it has always been courteously opened to the public, except on periodic occasions when closed to maintain the right, and during which times cards of permission to pass and repass this walk can generally be obtained from the Stewards (Messrs. Bennett & Sons, agents for Miss Turner Andrewes.)

There are many pleasant drives around Buckingham; the main London Road being in several parts a beautiful avenue, and the public road leading from same across Addington Park and on through the Claydons is very charming. The road through Tingewick to Banbury, or to Bicester, is excellent for motoring, while the "hill and dale" road through Whittlebury to Towcester, and on to Northampton, is very exhilerating.

It may be mentioned that the glorious "Stowe House," near here, the home of the Dukes of Buckingham, has twice been occupied for a time by French Royal refugees; first about a century ago, and recently by the Comte de Paris, who died there on 8th September, 1894. *(See full description of Stowe in the "Illustrated London News," 15th September, 1894.)*

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS.

THE CORPORATION formerly elected *two Members of Parliament*, but this was one of its ancient "privileges" lost when, in 1867, "the Representation Act," 30 and 31 Victoria, reduced the Borough to *one* M.P.; whilst under the "Redistribution Act" of 1885, 48 and 49 Victoria, the Parliamentary boundary was enlarged to the whole of North Bucks. The following is a list of the elections during the last half-century:—

1859. April 30th—Sir H. Verney, Bt., and J. G. Hubbard, Esq., re-elected.

1865. July 12th—Sir H. Verney, Bt., and J. G. Hubbard, Esq., re-elected.

1868. November 17th—Sir H. Verney, Bt., 463; J. G. Hubbard, Esq., 338; majority, 125; L.

1874. February 4th—Egerton Hubbard, Esq., 589; Sir H. Verney, Bt., 391; majority, 198; C.

1880. March 31st—Sir H. Verney, Bt., 528; E. Hubbard, Esq., 520; majority, 8; L.

1885. December 14th—Captain E. H. Verney, 5462; Sir S. Wilson, 4006; majority, 1456; L.

1886. July 14th—E. Hubbard, Esq., 4460; Capt. E. H. Verney, 4389; majority, 71; C.

Then came a bye-election on Mr. Hubbard becoming Lord Addington.

1889. October 11th—Capt. E. H. Verney, 4855; Hon. Evelyn Hubbard, 4647; majority, 208; L.

Then follows a bye-election on Capt. Verney's retirement.

1891. May 28th—H. S. Leon, Esq., 5013; Hon. Evelyn Hubbard, 4632; majority, 381; L.

1892. July 12th—H. S. Leon, Esq., 5153; W. W. Carlile, Esq., 4704; majority, 449; L.

1895. July 19th—W. W. Carlile, Esq., 5266; H. S. Leon, Esq., 4830; majority, 436; C.

1900. October 9th—W. W. Carlile, Esq., 5101; W. Beaumont, Esq., 4684; majority, 417; C.

1906. January 19th—F. W. Verney, Esq., 6253; Hon. T. F. Fremantle, 4673; majority, 1580; L.

1851

Borough of Buckingham } to wit

The List of Freemen of the Borough of Buckingham being a Place entitled to vote in the election of Members for the said Borough

Sched B — Registration No 5

Christian Name and Surname of each Freeman at full length.	Place of Abode
Bennett, Christopher Dalton	Buckingham
Harrison, James the elder	Buckingham
King, George	Buckingham

per View

Town Clerk.

John Wortley

Attorney Barrister

Sept 23. 1851

The above Freemen all died about 50 years ago, and none have since been appointed.

GAOL ESCAPES.

THE OLD GAOL, although strongly built in stone, has proved on more than one occasion an easy place for prisoners to escape from. One clever misdemeanant, well known as "Scroggs" Wesley, having made himself a noose rope of blanket-shreds, which, by being thrown over one of the castellated parapets, enabled him to pull himself up on the inside and slide down on the outside and escape. Another prisoner (the "Coiner" Varney), simply watched for an opportunity, and walked straight out; and so also did another delinquent, who having got "clear away," as it is said, the police ineffectually scoured the country for 20 miles round, but he simply hid himself in the Cemetery plantation, and then late at night went home, and, after hiding for several days, one morning walked into the Market Square, and, there being no police about, gave himself up to the late W. H. French, Esq., J.P., and asked him to take him back to gaol—which he did!

[*From the "Buckingham Advertiser," May, 1856.*]

CELEBRATION OF PEACE.

29TH MAY, 1856.

(AFTER THE RUSSIAN WAR IN THE CRIMEA.)

IN common with most towns in the Kingdom, Buckingham is preparing for a joyous celebration of the return of peace. On Wednesday last a meeting of the inhabitants, convened by the Mayor, was held in the Council Chamber to take into consideration the most suitable means of doing this. £50 was subscribed in the room, and the following resolutions adopted:—

> "That it is desirable to celebrate the re-establishment of peace by a public demonstration in the town on Thursday, 29th inst."

"That, to enable the poorer classes to participate in the rejoicing, it is desirable to provide them with dinner at their own homes."

"That a Committee be appointed to carry out the foregoing resolutions and to collect subscriptions for the purpose."

"That it is desirable for all shops to be closed at twelve o'clock on the day of the celebration;" and

"That a public dinner be held in the Town Hall."

The details of the "sports" which took place; contracts for the meat, bread and groceries supplied; names of committee of management, &c., are all in the writer's possession, but are hardly interesting enough to merit reproduction.

SOME OTHER PUBLIC CELEBRATIONS.

1840—February 10th.—Marriage of Queen Victoria.—Entertainment of the people. (£88 2s. 0d. subscribed.)

1845—January 15th.—Queen's visit to Stowe.—Grand procession of Yeomanry, with the gentry, clergy, Corporation, etc.; dinner and general festivities. (£300 subscribed.)

1856—May 29th.—Celebration of Peace after the Crimean War.—Entertainment of the populace. Band, dinner, dancing, etc., fireworks and bonfire on Chandos Road. James Harrison, jun., Esq., Mayor.

1863—March 10th.—Marriage of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.—Old English sports and pastimes to celebrate the occasion of the marriage of H.R.H. Prince Albert Edward with Princess Alexandra.

1883—May 14th.—Whit Monday Holiday.—Public Old English sports in the Market Place.—Prizes, band, Morris dances, etc., provided by the Mayor, J. T. Harrison, Esq.

1887—June 21st.—Queen's Jubilee.—Sports, etc., races for men, women and children, and for ponies and donkeys in the old Cricket Field, fireworks, etc.

1897—June 22nd.—Queen's Diamond Jubilee.—Public dinner in the Town Hall, when about 400 sat down.

1901—July 25th.—Public Reception of Lord Chesham.—Presentation of sword to Lord Chesham on his return from the South African War. Yeomanry parade and "County" gathering in a field on Stowe Road. C. A. Bennett, Esq., Mayor.

1902—June 26th, and then postponed through illness of His Majesty to August 9th.—Coronation Festivities; King Edward VII. enthroned. Procession, service at Church, tree planting, bands playing, teas for children, bonfire. A. C. Rogers, Esq., Mayor.

1908—May 25th.—First "Empire Day" celebrated.—Assembly of School children in Market Square; escort of Royal Bucks Hussars, etc. F. Adcock, Esq., Mayor.

A FEW OF THE MORE NOTABLE EVENTS OF THE PAST HALF CENTURY.

OPENING of a Cemetery for Buckingham—1856.

Peace rejoicings at end of the Russian War—1856.

Death of Prince Albert—14th December, 1861.

Creation of a School Board for Buckingham in 1871, and its extinction in 1905.

Presentation to His Grace The Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, on his return to Stowe, after 5 years' absence as Governor of Madras—1881.

Public dinner, to celebrate Sir H. Verney's Jubilee in Parliament—1883.

Presentation to the Borough of the "Nursing Home," by the Right Hon. J. G. Hubbard, M.P.—1886.

Her Majesty Queen Victoria's Jubilee—1887.

His Royal Highness Albert Edward Prince of Wales' Silver Wedding—1888.

Establishment of Water Works and Sewage Works in the Borough—1888-1893.

Establishment of Electric Light Works in the Borough—1889.

Death of His Grace The Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, at Stowe—1889.

Exhibition in Town Hall of Antiques, Curios, Carvings, Lace, &c.—1890.

Establishment of Stratford Road, Bourton Road, and Tingewick Road Allotments—1890.

The death of H.R.H. The Comte de Paris, at Stowe House, (after about 5 years' residence there)—8th September, 1894.

Her Majesty Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee—1897.

Her Majesty Queen Victoria's death; and Accession of King Edward VII.—1901.

Coronation of King Edward VII.—August 9, 1902.

Presentation to Lord Chesham, Col. of the Imperial Yeomanry, on his return from the South African War—1901.

Thinning out of every alternate lime tree on the Church Hill—1904.

THE CHARTERS.

BUCKINGHAM is lucky enough to possess two Charters of Incorporation (as already mentioned in an earlier chapter)—one granted by Queen Mary (1553), and a later one by Charles II. (1658). Both of them are engrossed on vellum, in Latin; Browne Willis gives a translation of the 1553 one, and, to save ordinary readers plodding through its lengthy paragraphs, a few items shewing the alterations since that time are here given:—

Then created (1553) a "Body Corporate," comprising Steward, Bailiff, and 12 Burgesses, to have a continual succession "for ever."	Now a Lord High Steward, Mayor, 4 Aldermen, and 12 Councillors.
Qualification to own property of the clear yearly value of 13s. 4d.; or goods and chattels worth £20.	Now to rate at £15 per annum or own property worth £500.
Elected annually on May-day.	Now 9th November in each year.
To hold a Court every three weeks, for actions not exceeding £5.	Superseded by the "County Court."
A local Court of Chancery for Privileges, etc., not exceeding 20 marks per annum.	
Shall have and hold to them for ever, one Market every Tuesday, and two fair days; unless such market and fairs be to the hurt of the neighbours.	Altered to Saturday in Charles II.'s Charter.
	Fairs have now lapsed into markets.
To appoint a Gaol in some convenient place.	New Lock-up on Moreton Road in place of old Gaol.
To hold two Courts Leet per annum, and to pay to the State £1 per annum out of same.	Gone out of date.
An Assize for Weights and Measures.	Still retained, but is now held under "County" management.
The said Bailiff and Burgesses to nominate *two* suitable candidates as Bailiff for the following year, and "*other* inhabitants" upon the 1st of May to select the one to serve.	The forthcoming Mayor now *chosen* by the Corporation on 9th November; an informal prior selection is now, however, generally made.
The "Burgesses" appointed "for life."	Councilmen now for three years only.
The "Steward" to be an "honest man."	Presumably the same!
There shall be two Burgesses of "our Parliament."	Now merged into "North Bucks" Parliamentary district.
The "Bailiff" to be "our Justice."	The Mayor still "Chief Magistrate."
The "Bailiff" to be also the Coroner.	One now specially appointed for life.

BUCKINGHAM SAVINGS' BANK.

THIS title from the Pass Book gives the history of the Buckingham Savings' Bank.

CERTIFIED UNDER ACT, 1863.

RULES, ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS,
FOR THE
MANAGEMENT
OF A
SAVINGS' BANK,
ESTABLISHED AT
BUCKINGHAM,
MARCH 9TH, 1818.

The object of which is
TO RECEIVE DEPOSITES OF SUCH SUMS AS TRADESMEN, MECHANICS, LABOURERS, SERVANTS, AND OTHERS, MAY BE ABLE TO SAVE;

To invest the Money so deposited, in Government Securities; and TO APPROPRIATE THE SAME FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE RESPECTIVE DEPOSITORS.

Under the Patronage and Management of the following Noblemen and Gentlemen.

PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENTS, TRUSTEES, AND OTHER OFFICERS OF THE BUCKINGHAM SAVINGS' BANK,

At the Establishment of the Bank in 1818:—

PRESIDENT:

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS, K.G.

VICE-PRESIDENTS:

Rt. Hon. Thomas Grenville.
Rt. Hon. Lord Nugent.
Rt. Hon. Sir T. F. Fremantle, Bart, M.P.
Sir Thomas Digby Aubery, Bart.
Sir T. Cotton Sheppard, Bart.
Sir Harry Verney, Bart.
John Poulett, Esq.
Rev. Henry Crowe.
Rev. J. Coker.
The Mayor of Buckingham for the time being.

This Savings' Bank is still opened every Monday from 11 till 1 o'clock.

Secretary, MR. W. S. PRINGLE.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

President :

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF ROSEBERY, K.G.

Vice Presidents :

The Rt. Hon. Lord Cottesloe, D.L.
The Rt. Hon. Lord Boston, D.L.
The Rt. Rev. The Lord Bishop of Oxford.
The Rt. Rev. The Lord Bishop of Reading.
The Rt. Hon. Lord Burnham, K.C.V.O.
Leopold de Rothschild, Esq.
Colonel L. E. Goodall, D.L.
The Ven. The Archdeacon of Buckingham.
Coningsby Disraeli, Esq.
Arthur Lasenby Liberty, Esq., D.L.
Alfred Heneage Cocks, Esq., M.A., F.S.A.
Hon. W. F. D. Smith, M.P.
Jas. Elliman, Esq.
Lady Smyth.

Committee :

Mr. A. Lasenby Liberty, *Chairman, October, 1908.*
Mr. T. Horwood.
Mr. G. Weller.
Rev. C. O. Phipps, M.A.
Rev. E. D. Shaw, M.A.
Mr. J. T. Harrison.
Mr. E. Swinfen Harris, F.R.I.B.A.
Dr. J. C. Baker, M.B., M.B.O.U.
Mr. E. L. Reynolds.
Mr. E. Wilkins.
Mr. F. G. Gurney.
Mr. F. Skull.
Mr. W. A. Forsyth, F.R.I.B.A.

Honorary Curator of the Museum and General Scientific Adviser :
Mr. A. H. Cocks, M.A., F.S.A., M.B.O.U.

Hon. General Secretary : Mr. W. Bradbrook.

Hon. Editorial Secretary : Mr. W. Niven, F.S.A.

Hon. Treasurer : Mr. C. G. Watkins.

Assistant Hon. Curator of the Museum : Dr. J. C. Baker, M.B., M.B.O.U.

Hon. Auditors : Mr. T. Horwood, and Mr. W. Crouch.

Resident Curator of the Museum : Mr. E. Hollis, F.Z.S.

Anyone desirous of becoming a member of this useful Society, which now numbers about 300 members, and holds an extensive Museum at Aylesbury, can have free copies of the Rules, etc., on application to Mr. J. T. Harrison, local Secretary.

SOCIETIES.

AS already explained, this little brochure is intended to enhance the value of the annual almanacks published at our newspaper offices—not to supersede them—and it has been said in praise of Buckingham, that there is "always something going on"—a most effective conceit. In corroboration

of this the reader should refer to these annuals for a list of the large number of agricultural, philosophical, theological, horticultural, eleemosynary, and other societies and institutions existing in the town and district. The writer remembers attending one of the most pleasant functions possible in response to the following invitation :—

BUCKINGHAM MUTUAL LOAN SOCIETY.

"King's Head" Inn,
Buckingham,
March 1st, 1880.

SIR,

The Committee of the above Society would feel pleased with the honour of your company at the anniversary dinner, to be held at the "King's Head" Inn, Buckingham, on Thursday, the 18th March inst., at 6.45 p.m., under the presidency of Mr. Alderman Ridgway.

I herewith enclose a ticket, and should be very much obliged if you would favour me with an answer by Thursday, the 11th inst., if it will be convenient for you to attend.

I may mention that the Society, which has only been in existence about twelve months, now numbers nearly 150 members.

I am, Sir,
Yours obediently,
THOMAS BONNER, *Secretary.*

Everybody was delighted with everybody, and each of the 150 members became security for everybody else concerned; but—the society does not now exist!

A FEW INTERESTING EXHIBITS AT VARIOUS TIMES BY INHABITANTS OF THE BOROUGH.

Geo. Bennett, Esq. :—Blunderbuss with spring spear; flint lock spring gun.

G. W. French, Esq. :—Elizabethan coin; Standard measures formerly belonging to the Corporation, viz., gallon measure marked "Henricus Septimus," a quart and a pint of Elizabeth's time, and a 4lb. brass weight, 1588.

Messrs. J. T. and G. H. Harrison :—Speed's Map of Bucks (1610), with map of the town in one corner (see photo copy of same herein); anklet or manacle brought up in the mud from Two Swan's Well (now London County and Westminister Bank premises); Breeches Bible; several foolscap black letter Bibles, heavily bound with leather, iron, and copper; Latin Bible (1564); catalogue (illustrated) results of Stowe Sale (1848); description of Stowe (1742), and another with plan of the Gardens, etc. (1759); pudding stone quern, found at

Thornborough; coloured copy of the Borough Arms on parchment (1574), (see photo copy herein); swing sign of "Shakespeare's" Inn at Grendon Underwood; ancient silver coins and tokens, punch ladles and salt cellars; mosaic floor from Roman bath at Foscott, etc.

Alfred Stowe, Esq.:—Bronze celt; Pewter inlaid and enamelled dish of Charles I. (very rare).

Miss M. E. Burrowes:—Specimens of Buckinghamshire pillow lace (see illustration herein); an English spinning wheel (believed to be 300 years old); 12 bobbins (150 years old); fine old horn parchment patterns.

C. A. Bennett, Esq.:—Hour-glass.

Mr. Wm. Hill:—Bible with Genealogical Chart (1619); copy of the "Times" newspaper, 1798.

Mr. G. E. Reynolds:—Set of Queen Victoria Jubilee coins, 1887.

Miss E. Sear:—Ancient Bible (1592); handsome specimens of needlework.

Mr. J. W. Thorpe:—Ancient Bible; flint and steel fire producer.

Mr. Tibbetts:—Bridle bit, temp Charles I. (found in a Buckingham garden).

Sir E. H. Verney, Bt., possesses a view of Buckingham (about 1740), shewing the Church *Tower* as raised by Browne Willis's exertions, *after* the fall of the Spire.

The late Robert Williatt Jones, Esq., of Winslow, exhibited there a few years ago the lady's dress apron worn by Mrs. Newman Williatt, "Mayoress of Buckingham in 1775." (See photo copy herein of Certificate of this same Mr. Williatt having duly taken the Sacrament during his year of office.)

Most of the above were on view at the Jubilee Exhibition of the Bucks Archæological Society at Aylesbury, in July 1905, at which 2,000 items were collected on loan from all over the County.

THE ENCHANTED PUMP.

(Relating to a Predecessor of Mr. F. Swift, Barber, in the Old "Bull Ring.")

Two friends, who absent long from home,
Had different journeys been,
At length returned, together sat,
Recounting what they'd seen.

Says one, at Buckingham I heard,
A story droll and true;
For he of whom this story tells
Laughs at, and owns it too.

About the centre of that town,
Close by the Market Hill, *
There lived a man when I was there,
And so perhaps does still.

John Warr, the glover, he was called,
And well deserved that name;
For through the country ten miles round
His gloves proclaimed his fame.

And breeches, too, his skilful hands
Of doe or buckskin made;
Which every country beau must own
Gained credit to his trade.

Though small his house, and few the rooms,
Enough he thought those few;
His parlour, void of pomp and state,
Was shop and kitchen too.

Himself, his daughter, and his son,
And eke the cat and dog,
Made up his household—but at times,
His cellar held a hog!

No yard belonging to his house,
Nor place a pump to set,
Made John, when water was required,
At inconvenience fret.

But from his house full twenty yards,
Beneath the Wool Hall† stood,
A pump‡ which he and others might
Make use of when they would.

With bucket in his hand he came
Unto this pump one night,
To fetch some water, though 'twas dark
And he without a light.

But at a neighbouring shop‖ a lamp
Did out of doors remain,
Whose glimmering light sufficient was
To guide him back again.

Some wags to pass away their time,
And laugh at others fears,
Three heads upon the pump had fixed
(Not quite so soft as their's).

To act the intended farce with glee
So well they fixed three threads,
That when they pleased the handle
Moved, or either of the heads.

John hung his bucket to the pump,
And up the handle flew;
Quoth he: "If you can move yourself,
Adzooks! I'll move from you!"

And so he did, but as he stretched
His hand towards the spout;
Determined though for water come,
To go away without—

He saw a nodding head thereon;
And staring wildly round,
Suspense and fear, and strange surprise,
Fast fixed him to the ground.

Top, spout and handle seemed alive,
For each sustained a head,
Which, nodding, willingly obeyed,
The guidance of the thread.

Not long had he with wide stretched eyes
Beheld this ghastly sight,
Before these heads their motion stayed,
And all was still as night.

At this his courage rose so high,
That, scorning borrowed aid,
Once more to set his bucket free
Full boldly he essayed.

Just then such force the wags applied,
And played their part so well,
That soon the head from off the spout
Into his bucket fell!

Down went the bucket, and away
He ran with all his might,
Determined never more to go
For water in the night!

* Now Mr. Swift's place.
† The Wool Hall, pulled down in 1814, and Shambles built there.
‡ At back of "The Bakery."
‖ Since pulled down and altered.

THE VICTORIAN ERA.

ALTHOUGH the writer's object in issuing this book is to treat of Buckingham mainly, it may not be inconsistent to refer to the enormous strides of civilization generally which the past half-century has witnessed. Take, for instance, the development of the coal and iron deposits of this island, which have been utilised for making railways—the very establishment of the railways facilitating the carriage of minerals. The whole country is now intersected with about 25,000 miles of railways, for the making of which a thousand millions of capital was employed; and, in connection with travelling, comes the improvement also of coach roads, the former turnpike and other main roads, first by the breaking of round stones down into cubes, and then spreading same over the surface for the wheels of the carts and carriages to squeeze them into one smooth surface (as invented by Macadam—and so now called "Macadamised.") Then the more recent improvement effected by the introduction of the steam roller, and so enabling the invention of rubber tyres instead of steel, and the perfecting of cycles and motor cars.

Another advance of the half-century is the introduction to commercial uses of the previously only scientifically known power of electricity—the harnessing, so to say, of "lightning." The Metropolitan Railway service, the Tubes, passenger lifts in same, and in hotels, &c.; electrically driven machinery used in the heavy mixing and grinding plant of cement makers, or in lighter running sewing machines, illustrate the power producing side of the matter, while the electric telegraph and telephone and the electric light are other branches of this science, developed within recent years.

Also the navigation of the air, though still in its infancy, has had an enormous advance in the invention and manufacture of "heavier-than-air" machines, like the one in which Bleriot recently crossed the British Channel. Very little until recent

years had happened in this science since the building of the Montgolfier hot-air balloon of about 100 years ago.

Then again, so far as artificial light is concerned; in his early days the writer occasionally met with a "rush-light," that is, dried rushes from the river bed steeped in fat; these being superseded by "dips," thread soaked in fat and increased in size each dipping; then "moulds," the molten sperm and other oils being cast into metal moulds; and now the brilliant paraffin lamps of the country house; or the incandescent burner of the town establishment; or the Edison electric lamp.

A very singular transformation in the material used for domestic buildings during the period under review is the leap from withies to wire, and mud to cement—the application in principle being practically synonymous. In several of the outlying villages round Buckingham may still be seen old-fashioned cottages, the walls of which are formed of "wattle and dab"; while the new General Telephone Office in London is built with "reinforced cement" (a wire frame cased over with solid cement concrete).

Another local transformation is the alteration in the district of the style of "Dairy Farming." Fifty years ago it was quite possible for the farmer's wife to have fifty dairymaids to choose from at the annual Michaelmas Hiring Fair, whereas now you do not see one. Butter making has almost ceased, the milk being cooled after each ingathering, and despatched by the next train to London, ensuring thus a vastly improved service to the consumer, and a much easier manipulation for the farmer than the old way of setting the milk, then skimming it, then storing in cream cisterns, and then laboriously churning into butter.

Buckingham still holds an excellent trade for gravel, for which there is a great demand, but the two brickyards which formerly existed have been closed, levelled, and turned into "allotments" some years ago—the introduction of steam machinery into brick-making having enabled bricks to be pro-

duced at about half the price which ruled when they were turned out by hand labour: a result not by any means confined to this particular industry.

In addition to the expansion of railways, the introduction of steam power into battleships and commercial vessels has enabled voyages to be made in one-fifth of the time of sailing vessels, and the mercantile tonnage owned by this country has increased seven hundred per cent., contributing largely to the increased output of coal from our mines, which is now twenty-five times greater than half-a-century ago.

Steamships have also greatly developed the trade with our Colonies: the annual turnover with either Australia, New Zealand, Canada, or South Africa, being now more than all of them combined at the beginning of the reign of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria. The building of the "Great Eastern" steamship by Brunel, though a failure for passenger service, enabled the laying of the first Atlantic cable to be carried out; another triumph of the Victorian Era.

This enormous rise in the "building of ships of which there is no end" (as someone wrote) also developed the practical invention of a "life boat" and the starting of that noble society the "National Life Boat Institution," with its fleet of boats and rocket apparatus, etc., apportioned at every dangerous point all round our coasts.

The population of this island has increased from under 30 to over 40 millions, and the spread of education amongst all classes has largely been assisted by the issue, at first of 3d., then 1d., and now ½d. daily newspapers.

The advances of medical science, too, have been very great —the use of anæsthenics, Röntgen rays, radium, etc., and the institution by Miss Florence Nightingale of professional nurses to assist doctors to alleviate pain during surgical operations, etc., are all matters for which the present generation cannot be too grateful. Even in Buckingham we have now for some few years past had the advantage of an "Isolation Hospital" for the treatment and cure of infectious cases (with reduced danger of their spreading) arising in the Borough.

BUCKINGHAM IN 1909.

THESE RECORDS would be inadequate without some appreciation of Buckingham of the present day. In a manner peculiar to itself, the town has absorbed all the benefits of modern civilization without the loss of its own individuality. Improved means of transport by road and rail have brought it into closer touch with the outside world, without destroying its old-world charm.

The present is coloured by a rich historic background; Danes, Saxons, Romans and Normans have all left their impress on the town, though it is perhaps most intimately associated with the ill-starred Stuarts. Not only the ancient Borough itself, but the surrounding neighbourhood is full of interest to the antiquarian, and has not a few churches of acknowledged beauty. The roads are excellent for motor and other traffic, with easy gradients on every approach to the town, amidst sylvan and river scenery of charming description.

As of yore, Buckingham holds a high place as a centre for sport; football and cricket have superseded the countryside games of old; while four packs of Fox Hounds, Rothschild's Stag Hounds, the Otter Hounds, etc., have replaced the hooded falcons of heraldry, but shewing that the same innate love of sport is still among us—a vital heritage of the past.

THE OLD CHURCH.

ADDENDA.

BUCKINGHAM PARISH CHURCH.

THE history of this Church, as far as can be collected from ancient records and documents, is as follows:

It was originally dependent on the Church of Sutton Regis, in the County of Northampton, and was with that Church, and that of Horley in Oxfordshire, made a Prebend in the Cathedral of Lincoln, at the early period of 1090, from which time, until about the year 1446, Buckingham was a Chapel, supplied from time to time by the Prebendary of Sutton-cum-Buckingham and Horley.

In or about the years 1445 or 1446 a Vicarage was endowed at Buckingham, with certain small tithes. This Vicarial Endowment is extant, and a copy of it may be obtained if necessary. From that time to the present Buckingham has continued to be a Vicarage, presented to by the Prebendary of Sutton, as long as that Prebend existed, and since then by the owners of the Impropriation. At the time when Buckingham was made Prebendal, it was by King William Rufus (as may be seen by Dugdale's "Monastican Anglicanum," vol. 3, p. 259), confirmed to the Church of Lincoln under this description, viz.: "Ecclesiam de Buckingham aim Terris et decimis et und Carncata Terrea in Gaucota"—now called Gawcott.

It remained a Prebend in the Church of Lincoln until the reign of King Edward the Sixth, when this Prebend of Sutton-cum-Buckingham, being the most valuable Prebend in the Kingdom except one (Massam, in the county of York), was surrendered by Richard Cox, the last Prebendary, in 1547, to the said King Edward the Sixth, and so by its dissolution becoming a lay fee, was granted out as such by the King to his uncle, Edward Seymour, Duke of Somerset, and he being

attainted of high treason in 1551, this Impropriation of Buckingham reverted to the Crown, in which it seems to have remained a considerable number of years, having been demised by the Crown first to Sir John Mason by Queen Mary in 1553, then to Lord Henry Seymour for his life by Queen Elizabeth, and lastly by the same Queen to the said Henry Seymour (in his surrender of the former lease), Anthony Wingfield and Robert Johnson, Gent., for their lives, in 1595. This is the last lease which can be discovered as to the Impropriation of Buckingham, neither can it be ascertained (as yet) when and to whom the Grant of this Impropriation was made.

There is reason, however, to believe that this fact might be ascertained, though not without some difficulty, by tracing the Minister's or Receiver's Accounts in the Augmentation Office from year to year until the Receiver enters his "non-respondent," because the premises are granted away.

The Grantee was probably Robert Johnson, Esq., for he presented to the Vicarage of Buckingham, in 1599. After this no presentation occurs until 1662, when Denton and others presented.

In the family of Denton, of whom there was several considerable persons (one of whom was a Justice of the Court of Common Pleas), it is believed this Impropriation continued for a great length of time, but whether down to the time when the Abstract of Title commences or not, is not known.

(The above was sent to Mr. Smith by Mr. Catey of the Augmentation Office.)

ARCHDEACON RUDYNG'S LATIN BIBLE.

THE vicissitudes of Family Bibles has always been a subject of romance, and the history of this valuable gift to the Parish has its exciting incidents, but being now carefully preserved in a glass case near the font in the Parish Church, it should be clear of all future mishap. How it was once too much taken care of is thus described in the "Parish Magazine," May, 1883:—

"A MANUSCRIPT BIBLE.—The Manuscript Latin Bible given to the Chancel of Buckingham Church, by John Rudyng, Archdeacon of Buckingham, in 1471, has just been most generously presented (!) to the Vicar and Churchwardens of Buckingham for the time being. The Bible contains the following inscription: 'Hunc Librum dedit Magist, Johês Rudyng, Archuns Lincoln Cath., curand in principali disco inpa Cancellii Eccls. succ prebendal de Buckingham ad usû Capellonorum et alior ibi in eodem studere volentû quam diu dura viut Fundator Cancellorum.'

"From another inscription therein, we find that this Bible was chained to a desk in Buckingham Chancel, was given to Browne Willis *to preserve*, and that it continued in the possession of his family until A.D. 1851 or 1852, when it was sold (together with the remaining portion of Browne Willis's Library) by Messrs. Christie & Co. for a Mr. Fleming, who received same by inheritance. The Rev. H. Roundell, a former vicar of Buckingham, purchased it from Mr. Kerslake, bookseller, Bristol, and now, by the liberality of his widow, it is restored to the Parish."

It may be added that it was the Rev. Arthur Carter, son of the late Richard Carter, Esq., Buckingham, who most fortunately noticed an advertisement of the Bible for sale in Mr. Kerslake's catalogue, and called Mr. Roundell's attention to it.

MONUMENTAL TABLETS, STAINED GLASS WINDOWS, etc., IN THE CHURCH.

In the Sanctuary, the magnificent East Window was a gift from the *Buckingham Needle and Thread Society*, and cost about £500. It was dedicated by Bishop Randall, of Reading, on the 11th May, 1890. *(See photograph and key to the subject hanging near the Tower inner door.)*

The Reredos was also subsequently given by this Society. Prior to that date, the copy of Raphæl's "Transfiguration" (now in the Vestry) stood over the Altar *(see photo of early Church interior)*. The painting is considered an excellent duplicate of the original, and was a gift by the Marquis of Buckingham.

In the Vestry there is a portrait in oils of Philip Box, Esq., the giver of the Church Organ.

Here also are preserved 4 plain pewter alms dishes, and 4 ditto engraved, "Given for the use of Buckingham Church by the Rev. Thos. Silvester, A.D. 1842."

The Silver Communion Plate (stored at Lloyds Bank for safety) comprises a flagon, 2 chalices, a paten, one dish, and a set of private communion vessels, and preserved with same is a key of the old Parish Church. One of the chalices is engraved, "To the glory of God, and in memory of Martha Silvester, these patens and chalices were renovated and silver substituted for base metal, 1896." On the silver vessels now in use, "An offering of thanksgiving for the harvest of 1854."

The Vestry Chest contains the title deeds of the ground upon which the Church stands, also a copy of "A bill for building a new Church within the town and parish of Buckingham, 1777," and a plan of the interior with all the pews set out, as originally allotted to the several householders; old certificates, etc.; also a memo. that Robt. Bartlett laid the corner stone 25th November, 1777, and the Church consecrated 6th December, 1780.

In the South wall of the Sanctuary is a Window put in by subscription in the year 1907, "To the glory of God, and in loving memory of Wm. Foxley Norris, Vicar of this Parish, from 1862 to 1879."

In the North wall is a Window similarly put in by subscription in the year 1909, "To the glory of God, in affectionate remembrance of Frederick Grave Kiddle, M.A., Priest and Vicar of this Parish, 1879 to 1899."

At the East end of the Nave (south aisle), a Window with the subjects of St. Peter and St. Paul, is dedicated "To the glory of God, and in memory of George Jones and 6 children. By his Widow. 1868."

Over same is the Martyrdom of St. Stephen, and St. Stephen making his Confession; "Erected in memory of The Rev. H. Roundell, M.A., former Vicar of this Parish (who died on St. Stephen's day, 1864), by his Widow."

In the South wall is a Window with the Latin inscription, "In memoriam, arnicæ dilectæ, E. M. C., anno, Etat 17, obiit A.D. 1858. Puella non est mortua sed dormit." (Inserted anonymously.) (Miss Carter).

Over same is a Window inscribed, "To the glory of God, and in memory of Richard and Fanny, and Thomas and Sarah Ridgway. This Window is erected by Thos. Ridgway, of Buckingham, 1885."

The next Window has a Latin inscription, "Surrexit non est hic, noli me tangere," and was put in by Miss Martha Silvester, to the memory of her sister Ann.

Then follows a Window, "In memory of Edward Bartlett, who died 30th April, 1835, and Eliza Mary, his wife, who died 7th Sept., 1856, by Mr. Herbert Bartlett, in memory of his parents."

And next a Window: "Erected to the memory of Richard Elkington, who died 7th December, 1863, aged 50, by his Widow."

And next the South porch: "In memory of Stephen Cooke, who died January 9th, 1885." (On a brass tablet also to his memory it states he died January 14th, 1885.)

At the bottom of the South aisle (behind the Font) is a window put in by "Persons baptized in this Church and by their friends."

The Mural Tablets at the West end of the Nave comprise:

Brass: "The upper Window on the North-west of the Nave (next to the Vestry), was erected by many friends in grateful remembrance of Edward Parrott, Banker, who died January 27th, 1878."

Marble Slab: "To the memory of Philip Box, of this town, who died 22nd August, 1833, aged 76, and of his Widow, Penelope Box, who died 21st November, 1850, aged 95, and of Mrs. Mary Clarke, Widow, who died March, 1820, aged 90." *(See portrait in oils of Mr. Box in the Organ Chamber).*

Brass: "In memory of John Anthony Coates, some time Churchwarden and Master of the National School."

Brass: "In memory of Stephen Cooke, who died at Buckingham, on the 14th January, 1885." *(See window also to his memory.)*

Brass: "In loving memory of Hannah Elkington, who died November 24th, 1887, aged 76 years."

"The floor of the Chancel of this Church is paved with marble by her surviving children."

Brass: "In memory of George Hanby De'Ath, Physician, of this town. Born September 16th, 1861; died July 7th, 1901. Erected by colleagues and friends."

Marble Slab: "Sacred to the memory of Mary, the beloved wife of Thos. Silvester, who died 26th April, 1852, aged 61. Also of the Rev. Thos. Silvester, Vicar of this Parish, who died September 20th, 1853, aged 69 years."

Marble Slab: "Erected by the Rev. Thos. Silvester, as a tribute of gratitude to his departed friend Ann Ellis, who died September 17th, 1840, aged 76."

The Windows on the North side are:

"In loving memory of Thomas Charles Hudson, who died at Montreal, Canada, October 13th, 1885, aged 25 years."

"In memory of Catherine Goodwin Silvester, who died August 11th, 1881."

"In loving memory of Sarah Anne Hearn, who died 23rd March, 1874."

"In remembrance of Arthur N. West, of Albourne-place, Sussex; Curate of this Church. He fell asleep in Christ, in Zanzibar, on Christmas day 1874. R.I.P."

The next Window has figures of St. John and St. Barnabas, and was inserted in memory of the Rev. Henry Roundell, M.A., by Mr. Kennaway, and other of Mr. Roundell's Curates.

"In memory of Thos. Bartlett, died November 3rd, 1850; and of Eliza Henley Bartlett, died September 4th, 1872."

Over this Window is one with the subject of our Lord feeding the 5,000, put in by the friends of the late Edward Parrott, Esq. *(See brass tablet alluding to same at the West end of Church.)*

Items of Church Furniture, etc.:

The old Vestry chest, a carved oak coffer, with an inscription: "1690. Will. Howard; Edw. Snoxell, C.W." (Churchwardens!)

A second oak coffer (plain).

A framed board (from the Old Church), giving an account of "Grove's" and "Hart's" Charities.

The beautifully carved oak Pulpit, presented by the family, and in memory of Thos. Hearn, Esq., 1856.

Oak carved lectern, with figures, etc., given by the family to the memory of Wm. Stowe, Esq., who died 22nd June, 1855.

Four gas standards in the Chancel, presented in memory of G. H. Haslop, Esq., M.D., 1867.

Two standards in the Sanctuary (originally gas and now candle), given by Mrs. E. Andrewes Uthwatt, and restored by Henrietta Uthwatt, 1897.

Pair of altar vases, and brass reading desk, given by Mrs. Eliza Henley Bartlett.

The altar cross and the litany desk in memory of Mrs. Kiddle.

In the Nave, suspended from the roof, is the handsome brass chandelier, "the gift of Browne Willis, Esq., Member of Parliament for Bucks. Anno Domini 1705."

At the South-west corner is now "The Rudyng Bible," preserved in a glass case *(see separate chapter on its history)*, and the carved stone font, with counter-balanced cover, the gift of Wm. Risley, Esq., of Deddington, who also gave the oak planking from which the stalls are carved in the Chancel.

The Church Clock in the Belfry Tower is a 30-hour one, working three faces with skeleton dials. It was supplied by Messrs. Handley & Moore, of Clerkenwell Close, in the year 1807; and on a brass plate attached are the names of the then 9 Churchwardens.

The Spire was cleaned down about a year ago, and the Vane re-gilt, &c.

Information gleaned from Mr. Roundell's private Memoirs since the foregoing pages were printed.

Old Town Hall built, 1680, by Sir Ralph Verney (Sir Richard Temple having provided the timber).

1783—The Corporation met at the "Cobham Arms Inn," as the old Sessions House was pulled down and the new Town Hall not finished. *(See Corporation Records, page 191).*

1762, 6th November—Mr. Colton saw the Arms of Archdeacon Rudyng (a crescent between 5 escallop shells) on his monument in Biggleswade Church.

(See page 70.) Buckingham Marble Quarry.—Two paragraphs from newspapers (but undated) are pasted in Lyson's book, in one of which it is presumed that this Buckingham Marble "will ere long almost wholly supersede the use of foreign marble in our houses, and at the same time be a source of our own national wealth and a privation to the enemy"!

April, 1725—Collected at Wendover for a fire at Buckingham, £25 14s. 6d.—the largest collection ever known at Wendover.

Within two miles of Buckingham is "Stowe," the seat and gardens of Lord Cobham, which last are esteemed the finest of their kind in England; are indeed most elegantly disposed and beautifully diversified with walks and lawns, canals and grottoes, waterfalls, and various buildings, such as temples, rotundas, obelisks and colonades; in short, you'll find beautiful Nature improved by happy Art.—*From "Cole's Manuscripts," in the British Museum.*

Quotation from Horace Walpole:—

"*I love antiquities, but scarce ever knew an antiquary that could write upon them—their understandings seem as much in ruin as the things they describe.*"

ERRATA.

Page 62.—Mr. T. Owaine Jones is omitted as Latin School Master from 1861 to 1868.

„ 84.—Mr. W. J. Gough's name is omitted between Mr. Bennett and Mr. Turner (White Hart).

„ 84.—Mr. Thos. Holton's name is omitted between Wheeler and Crofts (as Upholsterers).

„ 101.—February 17th, 1885, is omitted as the date of Wedding of His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

„ 103.—For January 17th, 1899, read June 17th (Wool Fair day).

Liberals and Trade Disputes Bill.

The Liberal Parliamentary Party heard to-night from their Chief Whip a statement which, if well-grounded, disposes of the likelihood of a Government defeat on Wednesday night. Sir Archibald Sinclair has ascertained that he can depend on all but ten of his flock to abstain from voting against the second reading of the Trade Disputes Bill. One or two, counting themselves under pledges to give support to the Government, may vote for second reading, but the majority will not vote at all. This will ensure the Government a small majority, and so no question of resignation will arise. The evil that may follow from a second reading secured without moral impetus and under threat of Liberal determination to treat the Bill as drastically as Mr. Norman Birkett foreshadowed is to be left for another day. The Government Whips to-day are comforting themselves with a like conclusion. Week-end soundings have disclosed that even disgruntled back-benchers on the Ministerialist side are as anxious as any nervous Liberals to avoid an early General Election. They are prepared to pocket discontents and show a solid front in this particular division. The best Unionists can expect in these circumstances is, by presenting an equally solid front, to make the carrying of second reading a very close thing.

New Phase in Liberal Tactics.

The Liberals to-night did more than discuss the prospects of Wednesday's division. They introduced a new phase of tactics in relation to unemployment. For months past Mr. Lloyd George has been darkly hinting that unless the Government adopted some of the schemes submitted by himself and his colleagues in the numerous conferences with Ministers, he would make a House of Commons matter of it. At long last he has chosen his moment. The party to-night decided to ask for a debate on unemployment, and "with complete unanimity," agreed to the terms of a motion by which the Liberals will ask the House of Commons to swallow at a single mouthful every bolus prescribed in the Liberal General Election prescription: "We can conquer unemployment." The Government, we are

change in aerial design, not only but at Gleiwitz, another offende to the general problem of inte Broadcasting Union is likely to c preparing a case for a wider b lengths, to be presented next quinquennial International Rad Convention, the authority that ether between various categor With more space it may be accommodate a full quota o stations in Europe without inte

Domestic Uses of Elec

Recent improvements in dome appliances have placed the cost electricity almost on a level wit gas or coal. Various supply taking advantage of this assistanc ship, are embarking on campaigns the wider use of electricity i Electric cooking stoves, suitabl design for ordinary household u about the same as gas cookers. to make strict comparisons of op because unskilful use of an elect be very extravagant. To get th an electric cooker the housewife new technique. In skilful hand cooker of modern design need co run than a gas cooker. Thi assumption that current can h penny a unit, and that gas cost shillings per thousand cubic fee between 60,000 and 70,000 ele were installed throughout the co are more than nine million gas c and the number is increasing. goes to show that gas and elect yet in direct competition in the s new method is displacing th electricity is being increasingly equipment of newly-built ho undertakings able to offer halfpenny a unit are pressing t electricity for domestic water hea price, with a modern apparatus, almost as cheap as coke for provi hot water.

The Keats House at Han

Hampstead Borough Council t consider proposals for puttin

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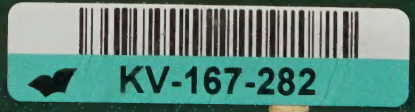
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